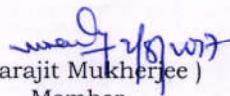


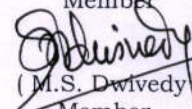
Date: 02.08.2017

Enclosed is the news item appearing in 'The Statesman', as well as "The Asian Age" English dailies dated 02.08.2017, captioned **"Woman gang-raped for protesting dies"**

Superintendent of Police, North 24-Parganas is directed to enquire into the matter and to furnish a detailed report by 9th October, 2017.


(Justice Girish Chandra Gupta)
Chairperson


(Napanarajit Mukherjee)
Member


(M.S. Dwivedy) 2/8/17
Member

Encl: News Item Dt 02.08.17

Ld. Registrar to keep NHRC posted about cognizance taken on the subject by WBHRC and uploaded in the website.

Woman gang-raped for protesting dies

She objected against drinking, one has been arrested but others are still at large

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
KOLKATA, 1 AUGUST

A 61-year-old woman, who was allegedly gang-raped for raising her voice against drinking at Sandeshkhali in North 24-Parganas died today at Calcutta National Medical College and Hospital (CNMCH) after battling for her life for around 25 days.

The septuagenarian was not only sexually assaulted but the accused also inserted glass shards and iron rods in her private parts reviving chilling memories of Nirbhaya case of Delhi. Police have begun investigation and arrested one accused while the rest are still at large.

According to sources, the victim ran an eatery near Sandeshkhali police station. The incident took place on 6

July when she saw some local youths consuming alcohol near her shop. "She was returning home after closing the shop when she found some youths drinking near her shop. She protested and asked them to leave the spot. On hearing the altercation between her and the drunkards, the local residents gathered and supported her," said a police officer involved in the investigation.

The men left the spot but only after threatening her with dire consequences. A few hours later, they barged into her house and attacked her. She was alone in the house then. They assaulted her and also gang-raped her, added the officer.

In a fit of rage, the accused inserted glass shards and iron rods into her private parts. Soon after assaulting her,

they dumped her in a bush near her house in an unconscious condition. The victim was rescued the next day after her family members began to look for her. She was rushed to a local hospital in Sandeshkhali from where she was transferred to CNMCH in the city as her condition deteriorated. Doctors who treated her said the foreign elements had damaged the vital organs of her body leading to her death.

A murder case has already been initiated against the four accused. Police arrested one of them identified as Rajeshwar Maity (48) alias Bhola after a raid in Sandeshkhali on 8 July while the rest are still at large.

"We have already arrested the accused named in the FIR as he was identified by the victim. We are looking into the

case very seriously," said Mr Anuj Sharma, ADG, law and order. Abhijit Bandopadhyay, ASP of North 24-Parganas, said, the victim's statement has been recorded.

The woman's family, has, however, accused the police of callousness in investigating the matter. "It has been days since my mother was brutally assaulted, but cops have not shown any seriousness in arresting them. We demand justice for our mother," said the deceased's son.

Meanwhile, the incident has assumed a political colour with BJP staging a protest inside NRS Medical College where her body was taken for post-mortem. They scuffled with the police demanding her body to be handed over to them. The woman was cremated at Nimtalla ghat this evening amidst tight security.

FIR lodged
arrest made

62-yr old rape victim dies

Kolkata: A 62-year-old woman lost her fight for life, about a month after she was allegedly raped by five persons, who inserted an iron rod and a broken bottle in her private parts. The prime accused has been arrested, the police said on Tuesday. The incident had taken place on July 4, when the woman was alone at her residence at Sandeshkhali in North 24 Parganas district of the state, they said. She died in a state-run hospital here on Monday. "The miscreants had inserted an iron rod and a broken bottle into her private parts to kill her after the gangrape. They had thrown her outside her house into the bushes assuming her to be dead," said a senior police officer. Doctors had conducted several surgeries but the elderly woman succumbed to her injuries, hospital sources said. "Her injuries were grave. Her private parts were brutally damaged by the broken bottle stuck inside.

— PTI