On Friday, the 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2015, the National Human Rights Commission organized a National Conference on Leprosy on 'Eradication of Leprosy' in New Delhi. The background note paper is enclosed.

- The National Human Rights Commission emphasized that all the State Human Rights Commission should seek a report from the Government about the implementation of suggestions and recommendations formulated by NHRC during the similar conference held on September 18, 2012. The formulations and recommendations are enclosed as Annexure to the Background Note of N.H.R.C.
- To summarize, the NHRC in its conference of 2012, suggested that
  a wide circulation to the principles and guidelines prepared by the
  Human Rights Council, should be given utmost priority for
  eradication and discrimination being faced by persons affected by
  leprosy.
- 3. It was further emphasized that discriminatory legal provisions like that Hindu Marriage Act, Leprosy Act etc., should be done away by both Central and State Government.

The leprosy affected persons should be given equal civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. It also suggested that a review be made of the criteria of minimum requirement of 40% disability under the PWD Act,1995 for persons affected by leprosy to obtain disability certificate.

- 4. Further, important suggestions were like wide spread awareness programme through FM Radio, street place posture, advertisement in News paper etc. An important suggestion was to dismantle leprosy colonies so that the leprosy affected persons should live a normal life, efforts be made to settle such person in mainstream by allocating lands and housing and also give them pension.
- Employment in government Sector can be provided as is done in Karnatake where about 130 Group 'D' employees among the leprosy person have been recruited.

In view of the above, a report may kindly be called for from the Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare. Department and copy of the same may kindly be given to the Addl. Chief Secretary, Home Department for certain actions pertaining to the Home Department.

Naparajit Mukherjee Chairperson(Actina)

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## WEST BENGAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

PURTA BHAVAN (2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR), BLOCK-DF, SECTOR-I, SALT LAKE, KOLKATA - 700 091

PHONE: 2337-2655, EPBX: 2337-7707, FAX: 2337-9633 E-mail: wbhrc8@bsnl.in, hrcwb2013@gmail.com

Website: www.wbhrc.nic.in

Ref. No 130/WBHRC/COM/1/3/2015-16

Date: 2.6.15

From

: Shri S. K. Haldar

O.S.D. & E.O. Special Secretary.

To

: The Principal Secretary

Health & Family Welfare Deptt.,

Govt. of West Bengal

Swasthya Bhavan, Sector-V Salt Lake, Kolkata-700 091.

Sub: Report on 'Eradication of Leprosy'

Sir,

I am directed to refer to a National Conference on 'Eradication of Leprosy' organised by National Human Rights Commission in New Delhi on 17<sup>th</sup> of April, 2015. The Hon'ble Chairperson, West Bengal Human Rights Commission attended the meeting and he has kindly prepared a gist of the Resolutions of the Conference which is enclosed herewith for your kind perusal. For ready reference the Background Note on the conference is also enclosed herewith.

I am directed to request you to kindly report on the points mentioned in Chairperson's findings and send the same at an early date.

Yours faithfully,

O.S.D. & E.O. Spl. Secy.

Encl: As above.



## WEST BENGAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

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Website: www.wbhrc nic.in

Ref. No 131/WBHRC/COM/113/2014-15

Date: 26.15

From

: Shri S. K. Haldar

O.S.D. & E.O. Special Secretary.

To

:The Addl. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal &

Home Secretary,

Nabanna (13th floor), 325, Sarat Chatterjee Road,

P.S. Sibpur, Dist. Howrah-711 102.

Sub: Report on 'Eradication of Leprosy'

Sir,

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I am directed to request you to kindly have a report from Health & Family Welfare Department on the points mentioned in Chairperson's findings and send the same at an early date.

Yours faithfully,

O.S.D. & E.O. Spl. Secy.

Encl: As above.