



# ST BENGAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

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Ref. No. 03/WBHRG/COM/01/15-16

Date: 01/04/15

From : Shri Nirmal Chandra Sarkar,  
Assistant Secretary.

To : The Superintendent of Police,  
Hooghly,  
P.O. Chinsurah,  
Dist. - Hooghly.

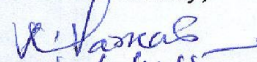
Sub : News item dated 01.04.15 published in "The Telegraph"

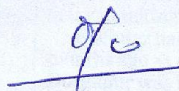
Sir,

I am directed to send herewith a copy of the News item dated 01.04.15 published in "The Telegraph" and to inform you that the West Bengal Human Rights Commission has passed an order directing you to enquire into the matter and submit report within four weeks.

You are, therefore, requested to submit the report accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

  
1.4.15  
Assistant Secretary.





Telegraph dt. 1.4.15

**Delay in reaching hospital blamed for death**

# Trainee manager dies in car crash

OUR BUREAU

A young woman needing emergency medical attention after a car accident on the Durgapur Expressway was kept waiting for 40 minutes before being taken to a hospital an hour's drive away, where she was declared dead on arrival.

Shehnaz Heny Laskar, a 24-year-old management trainee with Kutchina, was travelling with a senior colleague to a private engineering college in Durgapur on Tuesday morning when the driver of the Maruti Ritz swerved to avoid a truck and rammed into a roadside tree.

Rakesh Yadav, the training and placement officer of Bengal College of Engineering and Technology, said the car was travelling at 90kmph when the accident occurred at Maheshwarpur More, around 70km from Calcutta.

He was seated in front while Shehnaz was at the back along with Prakash Mani Tripathi, deputy manager of Kutchina. Police said the accident was the result of rash driving.

Shehnaz, who was from Guwahati but lived in Calcutta, was struck by a volley of shards from a shattered window that left her bleeding from the eyes and head. Her co-passengers, including driver Aminul Islam, escaped unscathed.

Yadav said he and Shehnaz's colleague waved at vehicles passing by for help but nobody stopped. When a police vehicle arrived around 20 minutes after the accident, Shehnaz was breathing but the cops allegedly wasted time discussing how to take her to



Shehnaz Heny Laskar

the nearest hospital.

"We requested the police to rush her to a hospital in their vehicle but they insisted on calling an ambulance," Yadav recounted.

Another 40 minutes went by before the three policemen called for a Maruti Omni that took Shehnaz and her co-passengers to the Hooghly Imambara Hospital in Chinsurah, around 30km away. A doctor on duty in the emergency ward declared her "brought dead".

"It was sheer negligence on the police's part. Why did they wait 40 minutes instead of rushing Shehnaz to the hospital in their jeep?" said Ankana Sen, a senior HR executive with Kutchina.

On why the police didn't take Shehnaz to a hospital

in their vehicle, an officer at Dadpur police station said he and his colleagues didn't have permission to carry an accident in a patrol jeep.

"This jeep is meant for highway patrol and we didn't have permission to take the accident victim to a hospital so far away. What if another accident had taken place there after some time?" the officer argued.

Hooghly SP Sunil Chowdhary said he would "enquire" about the reason for the delay in taking Shehnaz to a hospital.

Shehnaz had joined Kutchina seven months ago as a trainee and Tuesday's trip to Durgapur was her first big assignment. "This was her first job and today was the first time she would have helped conduct campus placement interviews. It was a big day for her and she was very excited," a colleague said.

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