

# **BANKURA DISTRICT MEETING**

**Date: 24.07.2021**

**Time: 11AM-1PM**

**Reporting By: - Saswata Sarkar**

**Edited By: - Venkatesh Kodukula**



## **POLICE ATROCITIES AND COVID-19 SITUATION**

## SCHEDULE FOR MEETING

<b>Time</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
<b>11:00- 11:10</b>	<b>Introduction of HRLN</b>	<b>Billeswar Sinha, Advocate of HRLN, Bankura District</b>
<b>11:10- 11:40</b>	<b>Purpose and Objective of the Meeting</b>	<b>SoumitraKarmakar Chakraborty,Advocate, HRLN Kolkata</b>
<b>11:40-12:00</b>	<b>Police Atrocities and Covid-19 situation</b>	<b>Saswata Sarkar, Advocate of HRLN, Kolkata</b>
<b>12:00-12:20</b>	<b>Police Atrocities and Covid-19 situation</b>	<b>Billeswar Sinha, Advocate of HRLN, Bankura District</b>
<b>12:20-12:50</b>	<b>Interactive Session</b>	
<b>12:50-13:00</b>	<b>Vote of Thanks</b>	<b>Mrs. PurabiMurmu, President, Rangamati LahanhatiJivanSamittee</b>
<b>13:00 onwards</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>SI No</b>	<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Pages</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Speakers</b>	<b>5-7</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Interactive Session</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Recommendation and Action Plan</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Annexure A</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Annexure B</b>	<b>11-13</b>

# INTRODUCTION

In recent times, there has been an exponential increase in incidence of police atrocities all over the country. Police atrocity is the unfair and savagely violent use of power by the police. In other words, police atrocity is defined as ‘a civil right violation which happens when police use excessive force with regards to a civilian that is more than necessary.’<sup>1</sup>The police have been vested with immense power but they have misusing it. The powers of police are mentioned in the Police Act, 1861 and the primary obligation of a police is to serve the people and protect them from the wrongdoers. Thus, information regarding the police atrocity is necessary as it explains about the basic disputes that arises from policing in a democratic nation.

With the outbreak of a global pandemic in the form of COVID-19 in the month of November 2019 and India going on a complete lockdown, the awareness related to pandemic is still not prevalent and as such it was important to talk about the various discrimination and the lack of infrastructure. Further there were discussions related to the government’s vaccination policy.

---

<sup>1</sup>Police Brutality, 2008, para.1

## **SPEAKER'S SESSION**

### **Speaker 1:**

### **Billeswar Sinha, Advocate of HRLN, Bankura District**

The speaker introduced the entire team of HRLN and started a brief description about the organization's work for providing Legal Aid to litigants, rendering pro bono legal services to those with little or no access to the justice system and about the helpline for people who seeks such help. He further highlighted about litigation in public interest.

The speaker discussed about the various forms of police atrocities and the remedies available for such actions. He further highlighted the steps in which a complainant can be lodged against a police officer or about a particular incident of wrong doing.

The speaker also highlighted about the legal help and support one can achieve from the hub office of HRLN at Bankura.

He further mentioned about the lack of hospital beds in the district of Bankura in fighting the covid-19 virus and talked about the mismanagement of the local authorities in providing vaccination to the rural population.

## **Speaker 2:**

### **Soumitra Karmakar, Advocate of HRLN, Kolkata**

The speaker highlighted about the challenges which are faced by the common people and urged the gathering to be aware of the existing laws. She further explained the about the various symptoms of covid-19 and how one should not ignore it at the very onset.

She highlighted the various forms of police atrocities which happen in India like asking for sexual favours in exchange of leniency, illegal detention, fake evidence, fake encounters, false imprisonment, witness tampering, intimidation, burning the body with lighted cigarettes and candles, custodial death and custodial rape, etc.

She further highlighted the importance of Article 14- Right to life and also explained the essence of this provision in terms of human dignity. She informed the audience about Article 3 and 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and explained the right to life, liberty and security to all as is envisaged in the provisions. She also mentioned that since India is a party of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights no person is subjected to arbitrary arrest or detention.

She gave the example of the Citizenship Amendment Act protest and the violent controlling of the protest by the police officials.

**Speaker 3:**  
**Saswata Sarkar, Advocate of HRLN, Kolkata**

The speaker began with asking the audience about their idea about police atrocities and/or brutality. He then explained as to who is termed as police and then emphasized on the various atrocities which the previous speaker talked about. He then explained how a complaint can be lodged if police refuse to accept a complaint. He explained the process of filing a complaint by post and then subsequently explained how a complaint can be made before a magistrate if police refuse to take a complaint. He talked about how a magistrate examines a complaint under section 200 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973.

He further talked about the Police Complaint Authority and its establishment by an order of the Supreme Court in 2006 in the case of Prakash Singh and Ors v. Union of India and Ors. AIR 2006 SCC 1 and explained why it is important for the state of West Bengal to establish such an Authority.

He further informed the audience about the various public interest petitions that are filed before the Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta regarding the covid crisis pertaining to beds, medicines, oxygen supplies, vaccination, beds for transgenders, pediatric beds and the lack of other medical facilities.

## **INTERACTIVE SESSION**

During the interactive session the participants shared a number of problems they faced relating to police atrocities and also informed about the problems faced by the people suffering from covid. The participants informed about the various harassments caused by the police and one of them informed how the police used handcuffs forcibly to make an illegal arrest of a SC man in Paubagan, Bankura. Further, Mrs. Purabi Murmu informed about an incident which happened in P.S. and P.O.- Doltala where one resident Baby Karmakar was refused by the police to lodge an FIR against her husband and in-laws despite she being subjected to physical and mental torture by them.

Further, one of the participants informed about the lack of ambulance in taking covid patients and pregnant mothers to hospitals and also about the mismanagement of the government in vaccinating people in doorsteps in name of the government's policy of "Duare Sarkar".

The highlight and the most important take away from the interaction session were that the participants informed about one Mandira Pal resident of Rajmadhabpur, Police Station- Barjora was vaccinated twice with the first dose of the vaccine.



## **RECOMMENDATION AND ACTION PLAN**

A comprehensive action plan was formulated wherein it was decided that the mismanagement of the government in the name of “Daure Sarkar” will be brought before the Hon’ble High Court at Calcutta and the updates regarding beds will be taken from the government. Also, application will be made before appropriate authorities to find out about the PICU and NICU beds within the district.

## Annexure A

### PARTICIPANTS

Sl No.	Name	Email Id/ Organization	Contact Number
1.	MadhabiHansda		8670473533
2.	PurabiMurmu	Rangamati LahanhatiJivanSamittee	
3.	Panchami Mandi		
4.	Amulya Chandra Hansda	Birsamunda Charitable Foundation	7364970852
5.	Sankar Murmu	Birsamunda Charitable Foundation	9593525087
6.	Rabindranath Murmu	Birsamunda Charitable Foundation	8670655673
7.	DasarathSaren	Birsamunda Charitable Foundation	7063604277
8.	Arun Hansab	Birsamunda Charitable Foundation	7047585227
9.	Bhadu Nath Saren	Birsamunda Charitable Foundation	8436318390
10	Sanjit Kumar Baskey	Birsamunda Charitable Foundation	7865975118
11	Sita Ram Saru		9679464423
12	Dhirendra Nath Murmu		7029861765
13	JitenHansda		7047244589
14	Patlik Das		9800944163
15	Dilip Mal		9233073103
16	Kalu Bauri	SC & ST Union, Bankura	9732173261
17	Somenath Kar	Barjora Block Blood Donor Association	9434440145
18	Suman Bhattacharya		8391936015
19	BilleswarSinga	advbilleswar@gmail.com	9547688877
20	LakhindaMurmu	lakhindamurmu.2011@gmail.com	8900604405
21	SoumitraKarmakar	soumitra.chakraborty91@gmail.com	8617734720
22	Saswata Sarkar	adv.saswatasarkar@gmail.com	9903503136

## ANNEXURE B





