

## NO GOVT NOD

# 73 days on, no charge sheet on Balveer in torture cases

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DELAY by Tamil Nadu government in granting sanction for prosecution of ASP Balveer Singh is hampering filing of charge sheet by the CB-CID against the suspended officer in custodial torture cases, sources said. A CB-CID team probing the case has not arrested Singh and other police personnel accused of removing the teeth of suspects in Ambasamudram, Kallidaikurichi and VK Puthur police stations even 125 days after the first incident of torture was recorded on March 10.

Based on the complaint of Arunkumar, one of the victims,



police had registered first case against Singh and his team on May 1 under Sections 323, 324, 326, 506 (1) of IPC, 3 (1) (e), 3 (2) (v), 3 (2) (va) of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act and Section 75 of The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act. A few more cases were later registered based on complaints from other victims. "Even as they were conducting inquiry with the victims and the accused, the CB-CID sleuths sent a request to the state government demanding nod for prosecuting the accused. The charge-sheet is almost ready," sources said.

When contacted by TNIE, executive director of People's Watch Henry Tiphagne said he would file a 'direction petition' before the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court demanding filing of charge sheet by the CB-CID. **P3**

## 'Victims have not even been compensated by state yet'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1: "As SC/ST (POA) Act sections were invoked against the accused, CB-CID should have filed the charge sheet within 60 days. But they have not done it even 73 days after the registration of case on Arunkumar's complaint. We suspect CB-CID sleuths are intentionally delaying filing of charge sheet against Singh. The state has not even disbursed the compensation to the victims," he said. Tiphagne further said the state has also kept the inquiry reports of Cheranmahadevi sub-divisional magistrate Mohammed Shabbir Alam and senior IAS officer P Amudha under wraps.