

CM protecting custodial torture accused Balveer Singh: People's Watch

The Hindu Bureau TIRUNELVELI

Accusing Chief Minister M.K. Stalin and his government of protecting the Ambasamudram custodial torture accused Balveer Singh, advocate and executive director of People's Watch Henry Tiphagne has demanded that the inquiry report submitted by senior civil servant P. Amudha should be shared with the victim.

Speaking to reporters on the Collectorate premises on Wednesday, Mr. Henry said Ms. Amudha, who inquired complaints pertaining to the custodial torture by Ambasamudram Sub-Division ASP Balveer Singh and others, had submitted her report to the Tamil Nadu Government.

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Instead of sharing the complete report as per the court's direction, a portion of her findings had been shared with the victim.

Since the prime accused of this case was an IPS officer, he was being protected by the official machinery, which was refusing to take due action against Mr. Balveer Singh.

Based on the interim report submitted by Ms. Amudha, disciplinary action could have been taken against the IPS officer. While ADGP Rajesh Das, who had been convicted in the sexual harassment case, was suspended much before conviction by the court, Mr. Balveer Singh was being protected, Mr. Henry said.

He alleged that there were "huge mismatches" between the interim report submitted by Ms. Amudha and the case being argued in the court by the CB-CID, the investigating agency.

"Hence, we demand a copy of the report submitted by then Sub-Collector of Cheranmahadevi Mohammed Shabbir Alam also," Mr. Henry said.

He said the CCTV footages collected from the police stations where the custodial torture had taken place should be given to the victim.