

SHRC orders probe into ASP's barbaric torture

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The State Human Rights Commission has ordered a probe into the inhuman and barbarous torture of suspects in police custody by Balveer Singh, ASP, A m b a s a m u d r a m , Tirunelveli district recently. The SHRC chairman directed the inspector general / director, investigation division, SHRC, to submit the probe report in six weeks.

Meanwhile, People's Watch, an NGO, has condemned the inhuman torture by the IPS officer on March 10, 2023 at Ambasamudram police station.

In a video, which went viral on social media, the victims had alleged that they were subjected to custodial torture and their teeth were knocked down by Singh. They had gone

to confront a group of people who hit their friend. But the police arrested six of them and three others from the opposite group and took them to the police station, where they were tortured.

Singh, 39, belonging to 2020-batch of IPS, is a native of Rajasthan.

E s a k i m u t h u , Mariappan, Chellappa, Mariappan, Arul alias Antony and Suresh were arrested in Ambasamudram and remanded on March 10, 2023 at 11.30 pm.

Singh used calipers to pull out the teeth of the accused, causing extreme pain. He stuffed their mouths with gravel and slapped them on their cheeks.

The NGO stated that the IPS officer personally engaged in torture by removing his police uniform at the police station,

reminding one about the infamous 'Sathankulam custodial death case' in June 2020.

The NGO stated that the entire sub-division has several such cases but the victims do not dare to speak up fearing consequences. When the victims were remanded in judicial custody before the Cheranmahadevi judicial magistrate, they were warned by the police, accompanying them, not to speak about the torture, threatening danger to women folk in their families. The judge, a m a g i s t r a t e , Cheranmahadevi, similar to then judicial magistrate of Sathankulam, failed to notice the grievous injuries of torture while remanding the accused.

People's Watch demanded that Balveer S i n g h

had been kept on compulsory wait, which is a sufficient cause for his immediate suspension and after the executive magistrate's enquiry is over the remaining can be suspended and criminal action initiated.

The Madras high court should immediately enquire into how the injuries of six victims of brutal torture were not detected by the judicial m a g i s t r a t e , Cheranmahadevi.

Singh must be subjected to strict psychiatric examination before he is put back in any form of policing at any point of time after his present compulsory wait, the NGO stated.

The ADGP intelligence should also conduct an enquiry into this serious violation of human rights even when the Tamil Nadu Assembly was in session.