



# HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS' ALERT - INDIA

NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

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HRDA/NHRC-SM/NE/TRI/50/09/2024

17 September 2024

To  
Smt Vijayarathi Shayani,  
Acting Chairperson,  
National Human Rights Commission,  
Manav Adhikar Bhawan,  
Block-C, GPO Complex, INA,  
New Delhi -110 023  
Email: [chairnhrc@nic.in](mailto:chairnhrc@nic.in)

Respected Madam,

***Subject: Requesting to initiate suo moto proceedings in the case of attack on four journalists in Math Chowmuhan, Tripura.***

We are writing to you to bring to your kind attention that on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at about 01.00 - 01.15 AM journalist Prasenjit Bhattacharjee, Bijoy Singha Roy, Pranab Shil, Mihir Sarkar and 2 others travelling to Chandrapur Interstate Bus Terminus, where they were attacked by Sukanta Debnath, Akash Banik, Sourav Bhattacharya & others by blocking the path of journalists using 4-wheeler (Vehicle bearing No. TR 01 B 40753) and 6 bikes.

The attackers targeted Prasenjit Bhattacharjee, when another journalist intervened and they were also attacked and their cash along with gold ornaments were stolen and their mobile phones and cameras were damaged. The journalists were rescued by the police after a distress call made by the journalist. East District Police registered an FIR based on the complaint of the journalist and arrested 3 persons (Sukanta Debnath, Akash Banik and Sourav Bhattacharya) in connection with FIR.

The incident has been reported widely in the media and a link is shared here for your reference - [Four held for attack on journalists in Agartala - The Hindu](#)

We urgently appeal to you to exercise Section 12 (a) of the Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Act, 2019 and take *suo moto* cognizance of this incident and initiate an independent inquiry through NHRC's investigation wing. We hope and expect that the NHRC will intervene in this case impartially and in a time bound manner and issues a public statement condemning the attack on journalist.

Yours Sincerely,

(Henri Tiphagne)

National Working Secretary