



HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS' ALERT - INDIA

NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

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HRDA/NHRC-SM/South/PY/23/10/2025

13 October 2025

To
Justice V. Ramasubramanian (Retd),
Chairperson,
National Human Rights Commission,
Manav Adhikar Bhawan,
Block-C, GPO Complex, INA,
New Delhi –110 023
Email: chairnhrc@nic.in

Respected Sir,

Subject: Requesting to initiate Suo moto proceedings in the case of lathi charge on protesters, registration of FIR and detention of 25 students by Pondicherry police - Reg

We are writing to you to bring to your kind attention that on 10.10.2025, students of Pondicherry University staged a protest demanding suspension of faculty members on Karaikal and Puducherry campus who were accused of sexually harassing research scholars and students. The students demanded reconstitution of an Internal Complaints Committee in accordance with the University Grants Commission's regulations on Sexual Harassment in Higher Educational Institutions. The students allege that the present Internal Complaints Committee is a failure and has been influenced by external forces to protect the perpetrators.

In the early hours on 10.10.2025, a team of police officials from Kalapet Police Station entered the Pondicherry University premises and restored to lathi charge on the 200 student protesters. The police assaulted the students; they kicked and slapped them and dragged some of the students into the police vans. The Pondicherry police from Kalapet police station detained 24 students including six girl students and registered an FIR against the protesting students.

The incident has been reported widely in the media and a link is shared here for your reference – <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/assamese-journalist-shot-at-during-cultural-event-in-manipur-9191724>

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.

Yours Sincerely,

(Henri Tiphagne)
National Working Secretary
Human Rights Defenders' Alert - India