



HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS' ALERT - INDIA

NATIONAL SECRETARIAT

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HRDA/NHRC-SM/North-East/TRI/40/07/2024

5 July 2024

To
Smt. Vijaya Bharathi Sayani,
Acting Chairperson,
National Human Rights Commission,
Manav Adhikar Bhawan,
Block-C, GPO Complex, INA,
New Delhi –110 023
Email: chairnhrc@nic.in

Respected Madam,

Subject: Requesting to initiate suo moto proceedings in the case of attack on Journalist Aritra Sen on July 2, 2024 at Dharmanagar, North Tripura District.

We are writing to you to bring to your kind attention that on July 2, 2024 Students of Jeevan Tripura Higher Secondary School staged a protest near the Dharmanagar – Kailashahar road demanding the cancellation of their teacher's transfer. The protesting students were intimidated, verbally abused and physically assaulted by school management and local people.

Journalist Aritra Sen rushed to the protest spot to cover the news, where he was abused and threatened. Some miscreants took away the cameras of journalist who were covering the assault on students and deleted all the pictures. Journalist Aritra Sen filed a complaint against the four attackers in Dharmanagar Police station, North Tripura District. So far, no actions have been initiated by the Tripura police.

The incident has been reported widely in the media and a link is shared here for your reference - [TRIPURAINFO : The first news, views & information website of TRIPURA](#). Tripura Working Journalist Association condemned the incident of attack on journalist, they demanded immediate arrest of the accused.

We believe that attacked on the journalist is an act of reprisal against his activism.

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