

# BIHAR HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

9, Bailey Road, Patna

File No. BHRC/Comp.3335/2014

(Suo Motu Cognizance)

**Subject: Rehabilitation & Care of Persons with Disabilities (PWD)**

BHRC takes **Suo Motu** cognizance of the utter disregard shown to the **issue of Human Rights of Persons with Disabilities (PWD)** by the **District Authorities** and other concerned **executing authorities** in the 13 (thirteen) districts of Bihar namely – **Aurangabad, Katihar, East Champaran, Gaya, Muzaffarpur, Jehanabad, Nawada, Araria, Vaishali, Kaimur, Samastipur, Begusarai & Kishanganj**. The **District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRC)** set up in these districts under the grants of Government of India (GoI) have been made **virtually non-functional** due to the apathetic attitude of officials. These centres were created for providing comprehensive services to the PwD by creation of infrastructure, capacity building, awareness generation and rehabilitation. It needs to be mentioned that the prime responsibility for rehabilitation and care of persons with disabilities lies with the State Government as per entry no. 9 in the “State List” in the seventh schedule to the constitution.

2. According to the available information, even repeated communications directly by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment G.O.I and the **Directorate of Social Security, Govt. of Bihar** to the **District Magistrates** and **Assistant Director, Social Security** of the above districts have failed to evoke suitable response so far. The **executing agencies** in Katihar, Araria and Samastipur being NGO's namely – Kosi Regional Disability Welfare Committee, KANTA and ECOBHIK , **District Red Cross Society** is the executing agency in the remaining 10 (ten) districts.

3. **Commission, therefore, directs Director, Social Security, Bihar to inform the Commission by 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2014 on the following points:-**

(a) **What are the State plan/allocation to various districts of Bihar for effective rehabilitation and care of persons with disability (PWD). If there is no State plan at the moment, what does it propose to do in a time bound manner?**

**(b) What actions have been taken so far against recalcitrant district officials and the executing agency in the above 13 districts which have shown persistent apathy so far.**

4. It needs to be clarified that if requisite response is not received by the due date line, the Commission may be constrained to direct for personal appearance along with concerned officials /executing authorities.

5. Copy of the order be sent to the (i) **Director, Social Security, Bihar for necessary action** and to the (ii) **Principal Secretary, Department of Social Welfare, Govt. of Bihar &** (iii) **Director, Red Cross Society, Bihar, Patna** for information.

Date: 01.09.2014

Sd/-  
(Neelmani)  
**Member**

**S.P/Dy. Sec**