

## BIHAR HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

9, Bailey Road, Patna

File No. BHRC/Comp.104/2014

(Suo Motu Cognizance)

**Subject:** Suo motu cognizance on the slow pace of implementation of Section 20 of the Sr. Citizens Act.

BHRC takes **suo motu** cognizance of slow pace of implementation of section 20 of the “**Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007**” relating to medical support for senior citizens. The act provides for:-

**Quote** “The Government hospitals or hospitals funded fully or partially by the Government shall provide beds for all senior Citizens as far as possible:

2. Separate queues be arranged for senior citizens;
3. Facility for treatment of chronic, terminal and degenerative diseases is expanded for senior citizens;
4. Research activities for chronic elderly diseases and ageing is expanded;
5. There are earmarked facilities for geriatric patients in every district hospital duly headed by a medical officer with experience in geriatric care”. **Unquote**

2. **Principal Secretary, Health Department, Bihar** was requested through letter no.36 dated 8<sup>th</sup> August 2013 to send **status report** on the implementation of the above provisions of the Act. It was informed by the Health Department that medical support for senior citizens is being **implemented/monitored** by the **State Health Society** under the **National Programme for Health Care of Elderly (NPHCE)** and that **only six districts of Bihar**, namely, **Vaishali, Muzaffarpur, Rohtas, Kaimur, E. Champaran & W. Champaran** were covered under this programme so far.

3. The undersigned requested **Sri Sanjay Kumar, Secretary, Health-cum-Executive Director, State Health Society, Bihar**, Patna vide letter no.41 dated 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2013 that it would be highly appreciated if the **Broad Action Plan** for implementation of the provisions of this Act in rest of the districts of Bihar is shared with the undersigned by **30<sup>th</sup> September, 2013**. **Executive Director, State Health Society** has not sent any reply so far.

4. **Commission, therefore, directs to issue notice under section 17 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 to the Executive Director, State Health Society, Bihar to furnish required information to the Commission by 15<sup>th</sup> February 2014 positively failing which the Commission may be constrained to direct for his personal appearance.**

5. Copy of this order be sent to the **Executive Director, State Health Society, Bihar** for compliance and to the **Principal Secretary, Health Department, Government of Bihar** for information.

Sd/-

(Neelmani)  
**Acting Chairperson**

Date: 16.01.2014

Secretary  
S.P./D.S.