

## BIHAR HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

*9, Bailey Road, Patna*

**File Nos. BHRC/Comp. 4900/14**

### **Case of two CNLU students drowned in Ganga (Compensation awarded)**

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25.02.2016

Petitioner, Dr. Surendra Kumar present. Vice Chancellor, CNLU, Sri A. Lakshminathan present.

This is a case relating to death of two students (Abhishek Raj & Shriman Paras) of Chanakya National Law University on 23/24-8-2015.

After many hearings it was found that the matter is also pending before the High Court relating to investigation in the matter by the police. Since the High Court is seized of the matter, it would not be appropriate for the Commission to proceed in the matter further.

The Commission had requested the VC of the University to have discussion with Dr. Surendra Kumar, father of one of the deceased Abhishek Raj as Dr. Surendra Kumar had expressed a view that a memorial could be constructed in the memory of his son. After due deliberations with petitioner and VC, the Commission is of the view that one gold medal each shall be annually given in the name of Abhishek Raj & Shriman Paras. The VC expressed his inability to provide finances for instituting this gold medal and submits that for each gold medal an amount of Rs.5 lakh would be needed. Since the boys died unnaturally due to drowning miles away from University hostel on a day when they were supposed to be in the hostel, I feel their families deserve compensation.

Accordingly we direct the government to sanction an amount of Rs.5 lakh each by way of compensation to the next-of-kin of the deceased boys. If the parents want a gold medal to be given by University in the name of their sons, they will provide the said amount to VC. The criterion for awarding gold medals shall be laid down by VC after consulting parents of deceased boys.

It is also recommended that photographs of the deceased boys who were the students of the University be also put up at some appropriate place in the campus. The petitioner had requested that the name of the University or its library should be named in the deceased sons' names. The University and library are already named. According to the VC the University has been named by an Act of the legislature it is not possible for anybody to rename it except the legislature by the amendment in the Act. He also requested that the students be given scholarships in the name of his son. The VC expresses his inability to provide finances for such scholarships.

With these observations the matter is disposed of.

Copy of the order be given to petitioner & to the father of Shriman Paras and the Vice Chancellor, Chanakya National Law University, Patna for information and necessary action as the case may be.

***(Justice Bilal Nazki)***  
***Chairperson***