

BIHAR HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (BHRC)

9, Bailey Road, Patna

**File No. BHRC/SUO MOTU-1706/4/11/2020
(Suo Motu Cognizance)**

Human Rights violations of a Home Guard during lock-down.

22.04.2020

A news report that went viral on social media and almost all the National, State as well as Local Newspapers recounts the excesses committed by a public servant and his associates to a Home Guard, Ganesh Lal Tatma, who was assigned on Lock Down duty during this Pandemic (COVID-19) emergency.

As per report, on Monday, dated 21.04.2020, (at Bairgachi Chowk, Araria), a Government Official, Sri Manoj Kumar, District Agriculture Officer, Araria was going somewhere without Lock Down pass. His vehicle was stopped by the said Home Guard, Ganesh Lal Tatma, during execution of his duty. The officer got furious and took it as an insult to his high position. He threatened the said Home Guard with dire consequences and even of throwing him into jail. He made him hold his ears and do sit-ups several times. During the whole episode one Havildar, Govind Singh, was also present, who sided with the DAO, Araria. The totally nervous Home Guard reiterated that he was merely on duty and he meant no offence. But this hardly affected the DAO, Araria, who, in full public view, humiliated and harassed the Home Guard in presence of above said Havildar.

A video footage of the whole incident went viral on social networking sites. News of the incident was reported to the DGP, Bihar Sri Gupeteshwar Pandey by undersigned himself on WhatsApp, who assured that justice would be done to the victim Home Guard.

This Commission takes Suo Motu cognizance of this matter as it involves gross violations of not only human rights of the victim Home Guard but also breaking down the laws and rules by officers who are supposed to be the

custodians of law and who stoop so low as to violate them. The incident demands quick and immediate action on the guilty officer and his associates for this incident.

Call for a detailed report separately from DM & SP, Araia by **06.05.2020**.

Copy of this order along with newspaper cuttings be sent forthwith by FAX to them.

List on **08.05.2020**.


(Ujjwal Kumar Dubey)
Acting Chairperson