

Before the Kerala State Human Rights Commission
Sitting at Wayanad

Present : Shri. K.E. Gangadharan
Hon'ble Member

Dated this the 9th day of July, 2010

HRMP No: 3932/08

Petitioner : Advocate S.Saikrishnan.

Respondents :

The petitioner is an Advocate by profession, whose good intention compelled him to approach this commission with the following request. He highlights this Commission the death of many Adivasis (term used by the petitioner) for want of good hospital and due to lack of even minimum medical facilities in Wayanad District. The petitioner also points out that Wayanad is one of the backward Districts in many aspect of Kerala including in the health sector. Large number of tribal families are residing in the district. For any expert and better medical consultation like other persons this socially backward tribes also have to approach hospitals in Calicut which is for them is not affordable or possible due to

On the basis of the compliance taken on file the Commission called for a report from the Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department. The report says that the Government had already taken various steps for improving medical facilities in Wayanad Districts. Steps were already taken to up-grade the CHC Manathavady to the grade of a General Hospital, renovating the District Hospital, increased the bed-

strength of District Hospital Manathavady to 500, Vythiri CHC is also upgraded to Taluk Hospital, Edavaka, Vellamundu, Appappara, Cheeral, Vazhavatta, Mullenkilli, Poothadi Noolppuzha CHC were also upgraded as PHC. More over the department is properly monitoring the timely distribution of medicines and equipments in these hospitals without giving room for any complaints from anybody.

On going through the complaint and the report of the Government, the Commission finds that the Health Authority has already taken number of positive steps for providing various medical facilities to the people in Wayanad District by upgrading the CHC in to PHC, increasing bed-strength of the District Hospital, providing medicines and equipments to the hospitals. But there is no reference regarding the specific request made by the petitioner in his petition to provide a speciality hospital with modern facilities in the District at least for the need of the socially backward group termed as adivasis in the complaint. As observed earlier there is speciality Hospital or any medical centre though equallent to Medical college, Calicut or non private hospitals of Calicut, in Wayanad District, considering the population of the District and the distance beteen these two districts the general public need a hospital with malty facilities at suitable location to provide experts medical aid to all.

It is no secrete that malty speciality hospitals even are on the increase in cities and other districts as medical profession also became profit oriented than service minded since hospitals are being opened by private individuals with the sole motive

of money making. As noticed earlier this district is socially backward and sizable population is even now down trodden. This being the social background even private individuals are reluctant to open a hospital with modern facilities considering the financial viability. Thus it is the duty of the Government to provide better and modern medical aid to the needy at the earliest without subjecting the poor people to financial exploitation in the name of medical assistants at the hands of private hospitals.

As noticed above the Government is not so far realised the total lack of better medical facilities in this districts as highlighted by the petitioner in this complaint. So this commission proposes to request the Government to consider and implement the following recommendations.

1) The Government of Kerala should take necessary steps for establishing a Super Speciality Hospital in the Wayanad District.

2) The Government may also consider the feasibility of establishing multi speciality hospital in the co-operative sector as functioning in the near by Districts.

3) The Government may take urgent steps to provide better medical facilities to the existing Government Hospitals in the Wayanad District by keeping in mind that this is the backward district and most of the inhabitants in the districts are socially and economically backward.

**Sd/-
K.E. Gangadharan
Member**

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