

स्वाती मालीवाल
अध्यक्षा
दिल्ली महिला आयोग
SWATI MALI WAL
Chairperson
Delhi Commission for Women



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D.O. No
Dated

F1(44)CP/DCW/20/71
30/09/2020

Respected Sirs and Madams,

I am writing this letter to you with my head bowed in shame, my heart filled with sorrow and grief and my body chilling in anger and pain. I am sure there will be thousands of my fellow citizens who are feeling exactly the same. The brutal gang-rape and murder of a 19-year-old dalit girl by four men in Hathras has again shaken our already shaken core. Millions of young & innocent girls have sacrificed their lives and dignity in our country and yet except momentary outrage, our country fails to act. There has been hardly any favorable change in the condition of women and girls in India and every day, countless women and girls are ravaged and their lives destroyed.

The Hathras gang-rape and murder has once again exposed the complete apathy and disregard our system shows towards its daughters and mothers. The victim was gang-raped on September 14 and left to die in the fields with grievous injuries. Despite repeated pleas of the family, the local police failed to register a case of gang-rape or even rape and for 5 days the accused persons roamed around scot-free. It was only on 22nd September that the victim's statement was recorded and the relevant sections of gang-rape were added in the case and the other accused persons were identified. Despite her serious condition from day one, the Government of Uttar Pradesh shifted the victim to Delhi only on 28th September where she succumbed to her injuries the next day.

It is alleged that the perpetrators cut of the tongue of the victim to ensure that she does not give any statement to the police and repeated threatened the family for several days when they were not apprehended by the police. The role of the police and the entire UP Government is a matter of grave concern as for days the administration tried to pass of the matter as a dispute between villages and tried to cover-up the incident.

Had immediate action be taken on the pleas of the family and had the victim been shifted to Delhi earlier, we may not have lost another daughter.

Even in death, the UP Government was not moved by the pleas and tears of the victim and gravest of grave violation of the human rights of the victim, her family was locked up in their home and the her body was forcibly taken to the fields at 2 A.M. in the morning and cremated by the police officials. No family member was allowed to cremate the body and in death, the family could not be with their daughter.

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Every possible fundamental and human right of the victim was violated by the UP Government and its police, in life and in death.

I do not wish to state more before the custodians of supreme justice in our country but only pray that the Hon'ble Supreme Court take cognizance of the matter and pass directions as it may deem fit for:

- High Court monitored investigation and trial to ensure strictest and swiftest possible punishment to the accused in this crime
- Immediate suspension and punitive action against all erring police and administrative officials including the senior-most officials who tried to cover-up the incident
- Setting in place definite mechanisms to ensure that no other daughter has to suffer the same fate.

The Delhi Commission for Women shall remain at the disposal of the Hon'ble Court to provide any possible assistance in its capacity.

With prayers for urgent intervention,

Most humbly,

Swati Maliwal

(Swati Maliwal)

To

**Hon'ble Chief Justice of India
& Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court of India**