

**BIHAR HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

9, Bailey Road, Patna

**Case No. BHRC/Comp.247/14**

**(Suo Motu Cognizance)**

**Subject: Electrocution deaths of six children (30<sup>th</sup> Jan, 2014) in Jamui district -Failure of the preventive system.**

BHRC had taken **suo motu** cognizance of newspapers reports regarding administrative negligence leading to **electrocution deaths (due to H.T line)** of six children (8-10 yrs.) in village Chandr of Charkapatthar, PS. Sono Block, district Jamui on 30.01.2014. Commission in its order dated 6<sup>th</sup> Aug,2014 directed C.M.D, Bihar State Power(Holding) Company Ltd (BSPCL) to constitute a high level team of officials of supply and transmission wings to fix the responsibility for :-

(a) **Failure of the preventive system -non-functioning of Vacuum Circuit Breakers (V.C.B).**

(b) **Low quality of transmission lines.**

2. **General Manager** (HR & Admin.), South Bihar Power Distribution Company Ltd.,(SBPDCL) Patna has informed the Commission that a three member high powered Committee headed by the **Director (Operations)** SBPDCL, Patna with Superintending Engineer, Electricity Deptt., Patna and Executive Engg., MRT Division as members, has submitted enquiry report which indicates that :-

(a) As regards low quality of transmission line, sections of the broken wires taken from the site have been sealed and is being sent to competent authority/ laboratory for report.

(b) The **Vacuum Circuit Breakers (V.C.B)** installed at Sono electric sub-station were **non-functional** at the time of the incident or even from before due to non-availability of battery and battery chargers.

The relevant extract of the inquiry report is quoted below:-

"विद्युत शक्ति उपकेन्द्र सोनो में किसी भी 11 के०भी० लाईन अथवा उपकेन्द्र इत्यादि में विद्युत दोष उत्पन्न होने पर लगे हुए किसी भी भी०सी०बी० को स्वतः बन्द हो जाने की न तो वर्तमान में कोई व्यवस्था है और न तो घटना के समय ही थी क्योंकि इसके लिए विद्युत उपकेन्द्र सोनो में बैट्री एवं बैट्री चार्जर की कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है जो भी०सी०बी० को स्वतः बन्द कराने हेतु एक प्रमुख कारक है।"

3. Commission, therefore, directs **MD,SBPDCL**, Patna to inform the Commission about **administrative action** taken against the officers responsible for the omission.

3.2 **CMD**, Bihar State Power (Holding) Company Ltd, Bihar, Patna should also ensure that Vacuum Circuit Breakers and other preventive accessories are in place and operational at every such Gird Stations/Sub-Centres in Bihar.

4. **Commission will be expecting reports from CMD, BSPCL & MD, SBPDCL by 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2015.**

5. Copy of the order be sent to the (i) **CMD, BSPCL & (ii) MD,SBPDCL**, Patna for **necessary action** and to the (iii) **Principal Secretary, Energy Deptt., Govt.** of Bihar for information.

6. The can be listed next on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2015.

Sd/...

(Neelmani)  
**Member**

Date: 06.04.2015

D.S.