

Need for investigation into an incident of alleged assault on a tribal woman in Phansidewa, Darjeeling district of West Bengal.-laid

SHRI RAJU BISTA (DARJEELING): Recently a young tribal woman from Adivasi Samuday was brutally beaten up in Phansidewa under Darjeeling District. She was 7 months pregnant. Her only crime was that her family had protested against the illegal taking over of their ancestral land. The assault was so brutal, that the Adivasi sister gave birth to a premature child. The child could not survive and died within 3 days of being born. Even after one month of the incident, only one individual was arrested. The Adivasi Suraksha Manch then took out a protest rally. Instead of listening to their plight, the protesters were attacked with tear gas, lathi charge and water cannons. In this attack, the Adivasi sister who lost her child, was grievously injured. The trauma of this young Adivasi sister is pathetic as she lost her child and instead of arresting the perpetrators, she was brutalized further. The Adivasi and indigenous minorities like Gorkha have also equal rights under the Constitution. Hence, I am requesting the National Human Rights Commission and the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes to intervene.