

NHRC Intervention : Suo-Motu action on Tuticorin firing incident

The Commission on 23.05.2018 took cognizance of media reports about the killing of ten anti-sterlite protesters in Tuticorin (Tamil Nadu) during police firing. The agitators had been for sometime demanding closure of Vedanta's Sterlite Copper Plant which was polluting the environment and causing ailments in the neighborhood. The State Government apparently failed to take effective precautionary measures and the police resorted to firing on unarmed protestors, without following the standard operating procedure, thereby violating human rights. The Commission also sent its team of Officers for on the spot inquiry. The UNEP executive director general also condemned the incident expressing condolences for the loss of lives.