

**DR. N. C. SAXENA, COMMISSIONER AND  
HARSH MANDER, SPECIAL COMMISSIONER OF THE SUPREME COURT  
IN THE CASE: PUCL v. UOI & Ors. WRIT PETITION (Civil) No. 196 of 2001**

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9<sup>th</sup> October, 2009

Relief.measures/716/WB

Shri M.L. Meena,  
Principal Secretary,  
Department of Disaster Management and Environment,  
Government of West Bengal,  
Writer's Building,  
Main Block, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor,  
Kolkata - 1.

**Sub: Regarding the right to food and livelihood of the people in Cyclone Aila affected areas**

Dear Mr. Meena,

As you know we have been appointed by the Supreme Court to monitor food and employment schemes under PUCL vs. Union of India, CWP 196/2001.

This is with reference to the food insecurity, hunger and destitution caused by the Cyclone Aila which affected the North and South 24 Parganas districts of West Bengal. Having learnt that there is large scale prevalence of hunger among the people in the affected areas due to the inadequate relief measures and failure in the implementation of food and livelihood schemes, we had written to the Government of West Bengal on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2009 (Ref: Letter No. Relief measures/667/W.B; enclosed with this letter). Along with this we had enclosed the correspondence by our advisor in the state, Ms. Anuradha Talwar, with you and the District Collector regarding the conditions of the flood affected people and suggested steps to be taken.

We regret to find no action has yet been taken on many of the recommendations we made to the state government in our previous correspondence. Please find enclosed a report on action

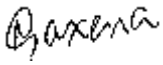
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taken by the state and district administration for cyclone Aila survivors, in response to the steps suggested by us.

We request you to kindly consider the recommendations and act upon them urgently. Please send us an action taken report within the next two weeks.

Regards,



Dr. N.C. Saxena



Harsh Mander

Encl: Report.640.WB, Relief.measures/667/WB, Action Taken Report, Annexure with Relief.measures/667/WB - Anuradha Talwar's letter to CS regarding the cyclone, Annexure with Relief.measures/667/WB - Anuradha Talwar's letter to DM regarding the cyclone, Report on Right to Food and Work in Aila Affected Areas.

Cc: Ms. Anuradha Talwar, Advisor to Commissioners, West Bengal.