



Encounter killings: CM told to take action against cops

Citing SHRC observations, People's Watch seeks departmental action

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URGING Chief Minister MK Stalin to take departmental action against three police officers for allegedly killing two persons -- Kaviarasu and Murugan alias Kallu Mandaiyan -- in an encounter, People's Watch Executive Director Henri Tiphagne briefed the State Human Rights Commission's recommendation in the case.

"On 16 February 2010, the duo was killed by the team led by then Assistant Commissioner S Velladurai. Earlier, Murugan's mother Guruvammal and Kaviarasu's relatives were tortured by the police. Following this, Guruvammal and Kaviarasu's relative M Seethalakshmi started a legal battle in the court and SHRC. As a result, on



October 21, SHRC ordered that Additional Chief Secretary (Home Department) Secretariat, Chennai should provide a compensation of ₹3 Lakh to Guruvammal and Seethalakshmi within four weeks. The panel had recommended the State government to collect

₹1,50,000 each from S Velladurai and the other police personnel Thennarasu and Ganesan, who were involved in the crime," he said.

Tiphagne further stated that as per Guruvammal's statement, both were under police custody for two days before the encounter.

"S Velladurai started his career as a sub-inspector. Following many encounter killings, he got a double promotion and was posted as DSP. Such developments show the murders were pre-planned. MK Stalin should order a re-investigation into all encounter cases led by Velladurai," he added. On behalf of Guruvammal, advocates Chinnaraja, Pandiyarajan, Muthukrishnan, Sathish Rajkumar and Nagendran had appeared for the trial.