

**KARNATAKA STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

1-4<sup>th</sup> Floors, M.S. Building, 5<sup>th</sup> Stage, Bengaluru – 560001

**H.R.C No: 2410/10/31/2020**

Date: 14-12-2020

**PRESENT**

Justice D.H. Waghela  
Chairperson

Shri K.B. Changappa  
Member

Shri R.K. Dutta  
Member

**Complainant:**

Director,  
Integrate Child Protection  
Society,  
Department of Women and Child,  
M.S. Building,  
Bengaluru – 560001

V.

**Respondent:**

Baalya Girls Home,  
Annapurna Charitable Trust,  
#162, Muleva Bhavan,  
Manganahalli cross,  
Sir M. Vishveshwaraiah Layout,  
Gnanaganaganagar,  
Bengaluru – 560056

**ORDER**

The complaint dated 29-06-2020 is filed by the Director of Integrated Child Protection Scheme, Department of Women and Child Welfare Department, Bengaluru. The same complaint is transferred to this Commission by N.H.R.C vide letter dated 06-08-2020. It is reported that Ms. Fathima alias Manjula, aged about 12 years, an inmate of Baalya Girls Home, Bengaluru died by suicide on 24-06-2020 at 07.30 a.m. by falling down from the building. It is further reported that the

child had asked for a sanitary pad from a construction worker (male) in the neighbourhood and a staff of the Girls Home was aware of it and as the child was apprehending punishment if the matter was reported to head of the organisation, she committed suicide.

Upon issuance of notice to the Principal Secretary to Government of Karnataka, Women and Child Development and Deputy Commissioner of Police, West Division, Bengaluru, report dated 15-09-2020 was received from Deputy Commissioner of Police, West Division, Bengaluru. It was submitted therein that the deceased was confronted by Smt. Usha, staff of the Girls Home as regards her borrowing of sanitary pad from a construction worker named Vijay and she died by suicide fearing punishment from the head of the institution.

In the facts of the case, the Dy.S.P attached to the Commission was requested to carry out necessary investigation and place a report on record. Pursuant to such order dated 22-09-2020, report dated 10-11-2020 is received, wherein it is opined as under:

*“Based on the above statements and documents Baalya Children Home (Annapoorna Charitable Trust) has been providing free food, stay and education to the boys and girls who are admitted to their children home. This child organization is a 4 storied building, built in 30x40 sqft. area which is fenced with iron grills all around the building including the stairs and also*

*had staff for the safety of these children. The organization also has experienced counselors who have been counseling all the children regularly.*

*“On the evening of 23-06-2020, the deceased girl, Kum. Fathima @ Manjula, she went to the 4<sup>th</sup> floor along with her friends and John Vijaykumar, who was a painter of the adjacent building which was under construction, gave her a sanitary pad and while returning down with the pad the cook Smt. Usha noticed it and enquired if she had taken it from madam, to which Fathima informed that Vijayanna had given it. Smt. Usha advised her not to do so and asked her to take it from madam in case of necessity. Fathima @ Manjula must have feared that Smt. Usha would inform the higher-ups and she would be punished or she was upset that her mother had not visited for the last 6-7 months or feared some other reasons and hence on 24-06-2020 at 8-00 a.m., Fathima escaped from the eyes of the staff and friends of the organization, went to the adjacent building and fell from the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the building to another house which was occupied and committed suicide.”*

In view of the material placed on record, it appears to be necessary that persons in-charge of the Girls Home should be more empathetic, careful and diligent while taking care of the children in their custody. However, the Commission does not find indication of any suspicious circumstance to enquire further into the complaint. Accordingly, the case is disposed and proceeding is closed without any recommendation.

Sd/-  
(Justice D.H.  
Waghela)  
Chairperson  
Sd/-  
(Shri K.B. Changappa)  
Member  
Sd/-  
(Shri R.K. Dutta)  
Member

V.M.N