Vijay Kedar
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the ACB.

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Rights body summons top cops in case of 'assault'

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MUMBAI

The Maharashtra State Human Rights Commission (MSHRC) has summoned Mumbai police commissioner Deven Bharti and deputy commissioner of police Sandip Jadhav to appear on September 29 to provide evidence in a case of alleged human rights violations. The summons were issued after the police failed to provide CCTV footage from the Kandivali police station, which the commission deemed necessary for its investigation.

As per the case filed by advocate Tarun Sharma on behalf of his client Shubham Jaiswal, on May 10 last year, during an inquiry at the Kandivali police station, sub-inspector Pravin Patil and a student, Parth Meher, along with his mother, Rekha, asked Jaiswal to return 50% of their fees. When he refused, Patil allegedly beat him up with a belt and Rekha allegedly hit him with a sandal.

The MSHRC sought the CCTV footage from the police station to conduct a fact-finding inquiry. However, a report submitted to the divisional bench, led by Justice AM Badar and member Sanjay Kumar, noted that the Kandivali police station did not cooperate.

The report also mentioned that the police department had allegedly influenced the complainant, making them hostile, and created obstacles for the investigation conducted by the commission.

During a hearing, the divisional bench expressed its strong disapproval of the police's conduct, terming it as an "interference in the course of administration of justice". The commission noted that it has no alternative but to conduct its own fact-finding inquiry to obtain the crucial evidence.

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