

Dear Editor,

Arappor lyakkam strongly condemns the delay in the formation of Rajeswaran Commission that is supposed to enquire against Police atrocities on Youngsters who protested peacefully for Jallikattu. We are attaching the letter sent to Chief Secretary regarding the same. We kindly request you to take it to the General public

## Letter to Chief Secretary

9/3/2017

To

The Chief Secretary

Govt of TamilNadu, Secretariat,

Chennai 600009

Madam,

### **Sub: Delay in Rajeswaran Commission Functioning**

Subsequent to the police atrocities in Nadukuppam and other areas of Triplicane on 23 Jan 2017, the Chief Minister of Tamilnadu announced an independent Judicial Commission under Justice Rajeswaran. This commission's terms of reference were to find out the details of these atrocities and appropriately recommend actions to the government.

The Tamilnadu government announced the commission on 30<sup>th</sup> January in the Assembly. The commission was given 3 months to submit its report.

Arappor lyakkam has found out that even after 40 days in its 90 day time limit is gone, as of today (March 09, 2017) the Rajeswaran commission has not even been allocated a proper office by the government. With no office, telephone or other infrastructure, the Commission has not notified time for hearings from the public. Inquiries revealed that it may be 10 more days before the Commission may be ready, leaving it only 40 days of its allocated 90 days for taking on its task.

This shows that the government seems to be not serious about investigating and assigning accountability for these atrocities. The government has to explain why there has been such a delay in providing infrastructure for the commission.

We also found that the Commission's immediate enquiry with DC Balakrishnan was only an attempt to soothe public anger, divert public attention as there was no infrastructure set up for the Commission to function even after so many days. We demand that you immediately allocate the required space and infrastructure for the Commission to function. The Government needs to give the commission's work top priority, if it is serious about knowing the truth behind the violence by the Police and providing justice to the victims.

Sincerely,

Jayaram Venkatesan

Convener - Arappor lyakkam