
Minority activists ask forensic expert for shooting inquest help

A forensic evidence specialist has been invited to help ethnic minority activists prepare for the inquest into the death of a Nepali man killed by a police constable last week.

Fermi Wong Wai-fun, campaign director of [Unison Hong Kong](#) for Ethnic Equality, said the independent expert would give an objective opinion directly related to the legitimacy of the shooting.

The gunshot wound and how the victim was shot in the case is important evidence, said Ms Wong, who has received threatening e-mails since questioning whether the policeman showed sufficient cultural sensitivity in dealing with the man he killed, Dil Bahadur Limbu, 31.

Police yesterday contacted Ms Wong about the threats, the first the NGO has received after commenting on minorities issues.

In most inquests involving gunshots, government forensic and ballistics experts provide specialist reports to the Coroner's Court.

Whether a forensic report provided by the victim's side is accepted as evidence depends on the coroner.

Limbu's elder brother, who is in the British army, arrived from Cambridge to identify the body.

Lawmaker James To Kun-sun asked Commissioner of Police Tang King-shing in the Legislative Council whether any officers had been involved in leaking the dead man's criminal record after the shooting, an act that could have been an attempt to smear the victim.

Mr Tang said if obvious problems were found regarding the leak, police would conduct a fair investigation.

More than 20 ethnic minority groups will protest on Sunday to urge police to conduct a fair investigation into the death.

Ms Wong expected around 500 people to join the protest at police headquarters.

The shooting happened on March 17 after a woman complained about a man urinating on a hillside in Ho Man Tin, where Limbu was thought to be living.

The constable went up to the hill to investigate but was punched and hit with a wooden chair when he tried to conduct an identity check.

The officer shot at Limbu twice, hitting him in the head once, after using his pepper spray and dropping his baton.

Ms Wong said the language barrier was a possible factor in the shooting. A witness' video showed the constable shouting warnings to Limbu in Cantonese, which he might not have understood.

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Phyllis Tsang

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