

74 custodial deaths in Asom in last 8 years

Our Correspondent

NEW DELHI, June 25: As many as 74 custodial deaths were reported in Asom in the last eight years. The Asian Centre for Human Rights (ACHR) in its report titled "Torture in India 2009" today stated that in the last eight years (from April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2009), an estimated 1,184 people were killed in police custody in the country. Most of the victims were killed as a result of torture within the first 48 hours after being taken into custody.

The highest number of custodial deaths was reported in Maharashtra (**192**) followed by Uttar Pradesh (**128**), Gujarat (**113**), Andhra Pradesh (**85**), West Bengal (**83**), Tamil Nadu (**76**) and Asom (**74**). "These figures do not represent the actual number of deaths in police custody in India," said ACHR director Suhas Chakma.