

Volume 32 | Number 8 | August, 2025



HUMAN RIGHTS

Newsletter

A monthly publication of the National Human Rights Commission, India



Report: NHRC, India Camp Sitting at
Bhubaneswar and Hyderabad

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National Human Rights Commission

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► NHRC, India Camp Sitting and Open Hearing at Bhubaneswar, Odisha

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Monthly Recap

From the desk of the Secretary General & Chief Executive

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), in addition to its other functions, periodically organises camp sittings in various states/ UTs to enhance access to justice for the public. The aim is to hear the complainants in the presence of the concerned officers in their own state/ UT to expedite relief to the victims of human rights violations. In addition to addressing cases, these sittings serve to raise awareness among officers about human rights while ensuring the prompt delivery of justice. Such camp sittings are being held by the Commission in various states since 2007. Furthermore, these camp sittings also provide an opportunity to interact with senior officers, representatives of NGOs and human rights defenders and media persons on issues of human rights.

In the month of July, the NHRC, India held two such camp sittings in Bhubaneswar, Odisha and Hyderabad, Telangana. The NHRC, India Chairperson, Justice Shri V. Ramasubramanian and the Members, Justice (Dr) Bidyut Ranjan Sarangi and Smt Vijaya Bharathi Sayani heard 144 cases in Bhubaneswar and 109 cases in Hyderabad recommending a total of Rs 77.65 lakh as relief to the victims.

Besides the disposal of cases, the officers were sensitised about the significance of the promotion and protection of human rights as part of good governance measures. They were also reminded about the need to ensure timely submission of reports to help in promptly deciding the cases of human rights violations. The status of submission of the action taken reports on the Commission's advisories was reviewed.

The representatives of civil society organisations and human rights defenders were encouraged to bring to the notice of the Commission the issues requiring its intervention to ameliorate the cause of human rights. The regional media representatives, through their coverage of the two camp sittings, gave further impetus to spreading human rights literacy and awareness about the Commission's interventions. In fact, the media has been playing a very important role in reporting the matters of human rights violations in far-flung areas. Right since its inception in 1993, the Commission has taken *suo motu* cognizance of several media reports ensuring relief to the victims of human rights violations. The media reports are also an instrument of awareness for the people on the kind of issues they can approach the NHRC for redressal of their grievances. The lead reports in this Newsletter focus on these two camp sittings.

The NHRC, India continues to foster collaboration with various institutions to discuss critical human rights issues. It promotes mainstreaming of such issues in the regional and national discourse to suggest measures to address the problems. In line with this, the Commission supported Lucknow University in organising a National Symposium on 'Women's Safety at Work and Public Spaces.' This was the second such symposium that the Commission supported in the recent past. It

The Camp sittings
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awareness among
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reaffirmed the Commission's commitment to combating gender-based violence and enhancing institutional collaboration to create safer and more inclusive public and professional spaces for women.

Collaborating with the training institutions of the All India Services officers is yet another significant initiative that the Commission took last year and pursued to train and sensitise the young officers at a cutting-edge level about human rights. It supported yet another specially customised training programme for the Indian Forest Service (IFS) officers organised by the Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy (IGNFA) in Dehradun from 17th to 18th July, 2025.

In his inaugural address, Justice Shri V. Ramasubramanian, Chairperson, NHRC gave the young officers an insight into the historical and international perspectives of human rights. He, in a nutshell, highlighted global progress from the Charter of Cyrus, Magna Carta, Bill of Rights, US Constitutional amendments, the French Revolution to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948).

It was also my privilege to address them on the 'Institutional Framework for the Protection of Human Rights in India.' Beneath them lie the country's civilisational ethos, which upholds empathy, compassion, non-violence and dignity. True public service involves creating lasting impact, ensuring inclusion and aligning environmental governance with constitutional values of justice and equity. Integrating human rights into conservation through the rule of law is both a constitutional mandate and a moral responsibility. Such training modules are useful in motivating and encouraging the young officers to adopt a holistic approach to protecting forests and wildlife while safeguarding the rights of local and tribal communities. The Newsletter carries a report on this collaborative training alongside other capacity-building initiatives.

Justice Shri V. Ramasubramanian also delivered a thought-provoking address to the IFS probationers on their Convocation at Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy (IGNFA), Dehradun. The speech is covered in this edition of the Newsletter.

Quackery within the noble medical profession has claimed the lives of many unsuspecting patients. In one

recent instance, the Commission's enquiry exposed an impostor posing as a cardiologist at the Mission Hospital in Damoh, Madhya Pradesh. Following its investigation, the Commission issued several recommendations to both the State government and the Centre, requesting action-taken reports to curb the menace of fake doctors. A detailed account of this case is featured in the Important Interventions section of the Newsletter.

Equally crucial to the welfare of rural communities are Anganwadi and ASHA workers, who serve as the vital last-mile link between government agencies and the people. They play a key role in delivering early childhood care and education as well as health and nutrition services to children and mothers in remote areas. The Commission continues to monitor the challenges faced by these frontline workers through direct interactions and spot visits, offering recommendations to improve their working conditions and enhance service delivery.

In addition to the NHRC, the State Human Rights Commissions (SHRCs) are an important component of the country's institutional framework for the protection of human rights. It is heartening to note that SHRCs are also proactively addressing the issues of human rights violations and the need to create awareness. This edition carries reports on significant activities of six SHRCs.

July also marked the conclusion of the 4-week Summer Internship Programme (SIP), which saw the participation of 80 interns. The programme emphasised the need to understand society and recognise the potential to positively influence it. The programme concluded with an understanding that success is defined not only by skill but by character, sensitivity, values and a commitment to doing good. The reports on the SIP and other capacity-building initiatives in this issue will hopefully offer an engaging and informative reading.



[Anurag Lal]

Secretary General &
Chief Executive Officer

Reports

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India holds 'Open Hearings' of complaints of human rights violations concerning different states during its 'Camp Sitzings' in their respective capital cities from time to time. The purpose is to hear these cases in the presence of the complainants and the concerned public authorities to give directions for giving relief to the victims there and then itself to expedite justice. The other purpose is to hold interactive sessions during such sittings with the senior officers of the State governments to sensitise them on the importance of promoting and protecting human rights as a part of their good governance measures. They are also advised to expedite submission of reports to the Commission to help quickly dispose of the cases, giving relief to the victims of human rights violations, besides submission of action taken reports on its various advisories seeking protection of human rights and welfare of various sections of society.

The Commission utilises this opportunity to interact with the representatives of civil society organisations, non-government organisations as well as human rights defenders active in that State to understand their concerns on various human rights issues and encourage them to bring them to its notice for giving necessary recommendations to the State government for course correction. The Commission also briefs the local media about the outcome of the 'Camp Sitting' to spread awareness about human rights and its various interventions to build people's confidence and faith in the institutional mechanisms for protecting human rights in the country.

During July, 2025, the NHRC, India organised two such 'Open Hearings and Camp Sitzings' in Bhubaneswar, Odisha and Hyderabad, Telangana. The cases were heard in two Benches presided over by the NHRC Chairperson, Justice Shri V. Ramasubramanian and Members, Justice (Dr) Bidyut Ranjan Sarangi and Smt. Vijaya Bharathi Sayani in the presence of the complainants as well as the State government officers. NHRC Secretary General, Shri Bharat Lal, Director General (Investigation), Shri R.P. Meena, Registrar (Law), Shri Joginder Singh and senior officers were present. Here are the reports:

Camp Sitting in Bhubaneswar, Odisha

The Commission during its two-day Camp Sitting in Bhubaneswar from 21st - 22nd July, 2025, heard 144 cases and recommended about Rs 28 lakh as relief to the victims of human rights violations in the state of Odisha. The cases related to custodial deaths, police atrocities, non-registration of FIR by police, deaths in state-run homes, deaths of children in hospitals due to fire, deaths due to drowning, stray dog bites, child trafficking, denial of basic human amenities, crimes against women and children, missing persons, suicidal deaths and electrocution cases, among others.

Some of the significant recommendations included the grant of pension, interim relief of Rs 15,000/- and other social welfare benefits to a tribal woman; expediting police investigation and filing of chargesheets before the Court in several cases; and compensation of Rs 4 lakh each to the next of kin of five workers who died while working in a hazardous cracker factory. The Commission also closed 38 cases after hearing the complainants and the concerned officers. Additionally, three cases were closed after the concerned



► NHRC, India Chairperson, Justice Shri V. Ramasubramanian hearing the cases in the Bench-I of 'Open Hearing' in Bhubaneswar



► Members, Justice (Dr) Bidyut Ranjan Sarangi and Smt Vijaya Bharathi Sayani hearing the cases in Bench-II in Bhubaneswar

officers submitted compliance reports along with proof of payment as recommended by the Commission.

The NHRC also observed that the payment of compensation under the 'Victim Compensation Scheme' to the tune of Rs 1 Crore was pending in 25 cases. Therefore, it took up the matter with the Member Secretary, Odisha State Legal Services, who ensured disposal of the matter after payment of the compensation.

After hearing of the cases, the Commission held a meeting with the Chief Secretary, Director General of Police and other senior officers of the Odisha Government on various aspects of human rights. The issues discussed included crime against women and children, deaths due to snake bites, trafficking during the COVID period, problems due to flood situations in parts of the state, human rights violations due to the practice of witchcraft and sorcery etc. The compliance of the state functionaries with the directions of the Commission was appreciated. The Chief Secretary assured full compliance with the Commission's advisories, like mental health, bonded labour, right to food and safety and submission of reports on various cases for early relief to the victims of human rights violations.

Later, the Commission interacted with the representatives of civil society, NGOs and human rights defenders (HRDs). A two-minute silence was observed, condoling the untimely demise of Odisha's noted HRD and Advocate, Shri Radhakanta Tripathy, besides issuing a condolence message acknowledging his unwavering commitment to justice, dignity and equality, uplifting countless lives across Odisha. The HRDs highlighted issues like the need for human rights education, police reforms, addressing transgender persons' problems like the lack of access to education and identity documents for them etc. NGOs and human rights defenders welcomed the initiative of the NHRC to reach out to them and exchange views to further strengthen human rights in the country.

NHRC Chairperson, Justice Shri V. Ramasubramanian said that the continued partnership of the NGOs and HRDs with the Commission will go a long way in strengthening human rights in the country. They were also informed that they can file complaints of human rights violations online through hrcnet.nic.in. The Commission appreciated their work in the State and encouraged them to continue doing so without fear or favour.



► A section of complainants and Odisha government officers at the hearing in Bhubaneswar



► Full Bench hearing the cases

Camp Sitting in Hyderabad, Telangana

In the Telangana 'Camp Sitting' organised at Hyderabad from 28th to 29th July, 2025, the Commission heard 109 cases of human rights violations in the state. During the 'Open Hearing,' the two Benches heard 90 cases. These pertained to the death of children in hospitals due to fire, increasing menace of stray dogs in residential areas, deaths due to fire, cases of tiger attacks, trafficking of tribal women, forcible eviction of tribal families, denial of basic human amenities, crime against women and children, suicidal deaths, misappropriation of Dalit Bandhu Scheme Fund, cases of family pension, lack of primary schools, food poisoning in Gurukul schools, malnutrition, police atrocities, non-registration of FIR by police etc.

Some of the many important reliefs given included stopping caste-based discrimination and social boycott of a family by the villagers in Khammam district, compensation to the families of all the four victims of a blast at a DRDO-linked rocket propellant unit, directions for submitting an SOP to curb stray dog menace in the state, action against a constable involved in trafficking of tribal women etc.

Later, the Full Bench of the Commission took up 19 pending cases for hearing. In 9 cases out of these, the



► NHRC, India Chairperson, Justice Shri V. Ramasubramanian and Members, Justice (Dr) B.R. Sarangi and Smt Vijaya Bharathi Sayani hearing the cases in two separate Benches in Hyderabad





► Hearing of complaints in progress

Commission recommended payment of Rs 49.65 lakh as monetary relief to the victims. Out of this, Rs 22.50 lakh was already paid by the Telangana Government, which also agreed to clear the remaining payment of Rs 27.15 lakh. The Commission closed 29 cases after hearing both parties. The two other cases were closed after receipt of the compliance report along with proof of payment of compensation to the victims.

After hearing the cases, in a meeting with the Chief Secretary, Director General of Police and other senior officers of the Telangana Government on 29th July, 2025, the Commission encouraged them to implement policies and



► A meeting with senior officers of Telangana Government in progress

welfare programmes of the government in such a manner that no one is left out. Emphasis was also laid on preventive and systemic steps to be taken so that human rights are not violated. It was underscored that human rights concerns impacted by the environment, climate change and business needed to be addressed.

Issues like crime against women and children, man-animal conflict leading to deaths in many districts of Telangana, child malnutrition, problems faced by the SC Corporation, lack of government primary schools, the plight of farmers including those engaged in the production of fish seeds, the rights of the LGBTQI community etc. were discussed to find solutions. Timely submission of compliance reports on the Commission's advisories and human rights violation cases was emphasised. The State Chief Secretary assured full compliance with the Commission's recommendations.

Later, the Commission interacted with the representatives of civil society, NGOs and human rights defenders (HRDs). The Commission reiterated that it believes in working in tandem with SHRCs and the civil society representatives for the protection and promotion of human rights. NGO representatives and HRDs highlighted issues faced by elderly, disabled persons, bedridden patients etc. They also sought financial assistance for severely disabled persons to support their caregivers. The problem of poor children not getting their identity documents was also highlighted. The Commission appreciated the work being done by them in the state and encouraged them to continue doing so without fear or favour. Dr Justice Shameem Akther, Chairperson of the Telangana State Human Rights Commission was present in all the meetings.

Consultation

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India from time to time organises various consultations including open house discussions, national seminars and symposiums on various aspects of human rights with different stakeholders. The purpose is to bring such issues of importance to the mainstream of national discourse and identify the problems to find solutions to recommend to the government as a way forward. In July, 2025, the Commission organised one such important consultation on the issue of 'Women's Safety at Work and Public Spaces.'

National Symposium on 'Women's Safety at Work and Public Spaces'

The Commission collaborated with the Department of Sociology, University of Lucknow for a second National Symposium held on Women Safety at Work and Public Spaces on 26th July, 2025. This followed the inaugural symposium on the same subject on 9th September, 2024. The initiative comes in the wake of incidents of crimes against women in both professional environment and public domain across the country.

Delivering the keynote address virtually, NHRC, India Chairperson, Justice Shri V. Ramasubramanian reflected on the contrast between India's cultural reverence for goddesses and the grim reality of violence against women, citing that nearly 51 FIRs related to such crimes are registered every hour. He recalled the protracted struggle behind the enactment of the Prevention of Sexual Harassment at Workplace Act, 2013 and emphasised enhanced awareness, stronger enforcement mechanisms and systemic changes to ensure women's safety and dignity.

Smt Saindingpuii Chhakchhuak, Joint Secretary, NHRC, explained the necessity of organising the symposium, sharing personal experiences to highlight how, despite comprehensive legal frameworks, daily reports of gender-based violence persist. She said that NHRC, India takes proactive measures to promptly address such issues of human rights violations. She expressed her

hope that future generations would be more vocal and action-oriented regarding women's rights. Smt Chhakchhuak also called upon educators to be more sensitive to gender issues to uphold the dignity of all, noting that not all crimes are overtly violent. She urged a strong focus on policy, enforcement and public awareness.

Prof. S.K. Chowdhury, University of Lucknow, said that both awareness and the confidence to report crimes are necessary. He called for structural adjustments in society and stressed the need to foster a culture of human rights that translates into everyday behaviour. Prof. S.M. Patnaik, Director, Centre for Tribal Studies and Head, University of Delhi, offered a socio-anthropological perspective on harassment in public spaces. He discussed how patriarchy and anonymity reinforce gendered violence.



▶ NHRC, India Chairperson, Justice Shri V. Ramasubramanian virtually addressing the National Symposium on 'Women's Safety at Work and Public Spaces'



▶ NHRC, Joint Secretary, Smt Saindingpuii Chhakchhuak addressing the Symposium



► The Symposium in progress

Quoting Carl Sagan, 'Absence of evidence is not evidence of absence,' he cautioned against assuming that lack of data indicates the problem has subsided. Prof. Patnaik called for empathy, gender sensitisation from a young age and the creation of support systems for women. Dr P.K. Gupta, Associate Professor, University of Lucknow said that change must begin within the household to make a broader societal impact.

Dr S.N. Sabat, Chairperson, Uttar Pradesh Subordinate Services Selection Commission, stressed the need to invest in emerging technologies and surveillance systems to bolster women's safety, especially in urban spaces. Prof. Nilika Mehrotra, Jawaharlal Nehru University, spoke about the critical role of public transport systems in ensuring women's safety. She stressed the need for context-sensitive solutions and not the 'one size fits all' approach by law enforcement agencies.

Speakers discussed systemic injustices, gender stereotypes and institutional inertia that hinder the realisation of constitutional guarantees. The need for legal awareness, proactive state interventions and greater representation of women in decision-making bodies was emphasised. The evolution of human and women's rights globally and within India was also discussed, as well as how the Indian constitutional provisions align with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Existing mechanisms and initiatives such as 'SHE-Box', 'One Stop Centres' and 'Pink Police Booths' were also highlighted.

Some of the major suggestions emanating from the Symposium were:

- Need for a concerted and targeted effort to address the issue of women's safety on all three fronts of policy-making, implementation and raising awareness;
- Include the informal sector in conversations about women's safety and the need for targeted awareness campaigns;

- Promote efforts that aim at sensitising individuals and families to transform attitudes towards women's safety at work and in public spaces;
- State to ensure the creation of inclusionary spaces for women, especially in decision-making bodies, so that structural transformations can be brought about;
- It is recommended that educational institutions take proactive steps to ensure that students are made sensitive to various gender-related issues, as well as aware of how to conduct themselves in situations involving the opposite sex.

The NHRC, India reaffirmed its commitment to addressing gender-based violence and strengthening collaborative efforts across institutions to create safer, more inclusive public and professional spaces for women.

The Evolution of Human Rights and the Role of Forest Officers

- Justice V. Ramasubramanian
Chairperson, NHRC, India

(Excerpts of NHRC, India Chairperson's address on 'The Evolution of Human Rights and the Role of Forest Officers' in the inaugural session of 2-day training programme on human rights for Indian Forest Service Probationers organised by the IGNTA, Dehradun)



The Constitution of India is divided into various parts, each serving a distinct yet interrelated function. While members of the judiciary primarily work with Part III of the Constitution—dealing with Fundamental Rights—officers of the Indian Forest Service find themselves deeply rooted in Part IV, which enshrines the Directive Principles of State Policy. Article 48A of the Constitution explicitly states that “the state shall endeavour to protect and improve the environment and to safeguard the forests and wildlife of the country.” Equally significant is Article 51A(g), which imposes a fundamental duty on every citizen to “protect and improve the natural environment, including forests, lakes, rivers and wildlife and to have compassion for living creatures.”

The relationship between Indian people and forests is ancient and profound. Indian civilisation has historically drawn its spiritual, cultural and philosophical sustenance from forests. The Naimisha forest or Naimisharanya, where the sages first heard the Puranas being narrated, holds immense significance in Indian mythology. Without such sacred groves, our literary heritage would not have evolved in the form we know today. Our very ashrama system recognises this affinity with forests; the third stage of life is aptly named Vanaprastha, symbolising a conscious return to nature. Indeed, the Ramayana itself—often considered our Itihas—emerged from a moment of deep empathy for nature, born out of a moment of wildlife grief—an act of literary and ethical awakening. This reverence for the natural world forms an early, perhaps unwritten, foundation for what we now refer to as human rights.

While most modern discourses begin with the Magna Carta of 1215, the idea of inherent dignity and liberty predates it by centuries. In 539 BC, Cyrus the Great of Persia, upon conquering Babylon, released slaves, allowed freedom of religion and advocated racial equality. The Charter of Cyrus, recorded in the Akkadian language and inscribed on a clay cylinder, is considered by many historians to be one of the earliest human rights declarations as it resonates strongly with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), adopted over two millennia later.

Following this, various milestones shaped the course of civil liberties. In 1628, the Petition of Right was instituted against the policies of King Charles I. This petition prohibited arbitrary arrest and banned the housing of troops in private homes without the owner's consent. Following this, the Habeas Corpus Act of 1679 came into force, prohibiting unlawful detention of subjects. The Act held even judges and the king's men accountable if they failed to release a person eligible for bail. Then came the English Bill of Rights of 1689—an act of Parliament that limited the powers of the monarchy and laid out key rights, such as the right to regular Parliament sessions, free elections, freedom of speech in Parliament, prohibition of cruel punishments and the right of Protestors to bear arms for self-defence under lawful conditions.

In 1765, the American colonies began their revolt against British rule. By 1776, they had achieved independence, and the United States Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence on July 4. Its primary author, Thomas Jefferson, famously wrote: “All men are created equal; they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of

happiness,” affirming the belief that the right to happiness is a natural, divine right.

The U.S. Constitution was finally adopted in 1787—eleven years after independence. In contrast, India attained independence in 1947 and adopted its Constitution within 2.5 years. While this was happening in America, France also witnessed a revolution in 1789. Six weeks after the storming of the Bastille, the National Constituent Assembly adopted the Declaration of the Rights of Man and Citizen. This proclamation guaranteed liberty, property, security and resistance to oppression. Note the difference in language—Jefferson mentioned happiness; the French emphasised resistance to oppression.

Shortly after the U.S. Constitution came into effect, the first Congress proposed twelve amendments, of which ten were adopted in 1791 as the Bill of Rights. Yet, slavery persisted in the United States. It was only abolished in 1865 through the 13th Amendment. The 14th Amendment, ratified in 1868, introduced the “due process” clause and equal protection under the law. Still, despite the abolition of slavery, segregation laws continued. Black people could not sit with whites in buses or enter certain public spaces. It took nearly 90 years for this to change.

The turning point came in 1955 when Rosa Parks, an African-American woman, sat in a seat not reserved for whites on a bus and refused to vacate when asked to do so. Her defiance sparked a 385-day-long civil rights movement led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. African-Americans stopped using public transport, putting pressure on the government. However, it was not moral outrage, but economic loss to transport companies that finally forced the government to act. Ultimately, segregation laws were repealed by a judgement of the US Supreme Court. When Barack Obama—a man of African descent—was elected President, a 16-year-old girl narrated history in a poem:

*“Rosa Parks sat,
So Martin Luther walked, Martin walked,
So Obama could run, Obama ran,
So we all could fly.”*

In contrast, India's trajectory was distinct and, in many ways, more rapid. Untouchability was abolished through Article 17 of our Constitution, within three years of independence. There was no slavery or racial segregation in India as seen in other parts of the world.

Parallely, after the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, the First World War broke out (1914–1918). Following

the war, the League of Nations was created in 1920. However, with the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939, the world witnessed massive destruction, rendering several people homeless. In response to this devastation, the United Nations was established in 1945. Its Charter declared the purpose of promoting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, regardless of race, sex, language or religion. The word “respect” remained the key. Fighting for human rights often implied thinking of one's own rights, but respecting human rights meant acknowledging that others too had rights—and that those rights must be honoured.

In 1946, the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations established the Commission on Human Rights—a body of 18 members tasked with drafting what eventually became the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), adopted on 10 December 1948. Until then, rights had been categorised into two sets: Civil and Political Rights, which focused on life, liberty and protection from state oppression; and Social, Economic and Cultural Rights, which addressed individual livelihood and welfare.

In 1979, a Czech scholar proposed the concept of “generations of rights.” He categorised Civil and Political Rights as first-generation rights and Social and Economic Rights as second-generation rights. Over the 77 years since the adoption of the UDHR, the discourse has evolved to include third-generation and even fourth-generation rights. This progression is where the role of the Indian Forest Service comes into prominence.

First-generation rights were primarily concerned with liberty and protection from state oppression. Second-generation rights - social, political, and economic - focused on livelihood. The third generation, emerging prominently after the 1992 Rio Declaration, came to be known as collective rights. These collective rights pertained primarily to the environment and climate protection. Although the Indian Forest Service, originally established under British rule, had existed for over a century, it was only after the Rio Declaration that the world began recognising the collective rights of people in terms of environmental protection and wildlife preservation. Hence, these became identified as third-generation rights.

In recent years, society has progressed into the realm of fourth-generation rights. These rights have been shaped by rapid advancements in science and technology, as well as the explosion of information technology. Previously, the “right to life” was interpreted to include only life, livelihood and the right to live. However, with scientific advancement, even

the right to die has now come to be recognised as an aspect of the right to life. Although death and life are theoretically juxtaposed, the law has come to accommodate this nuanced understanding. Consequently, discourses surrounding active and passive euthanasia have gained traction.

The advancement of technology has reached such a level that it has given rise to concepts such as cryonics. Cryonics is a process that allows a dead body to be preserved for up to a hundred years, with the hope of revival in the future. A real-life example emerged when a young girl, terminally ill with cancer, wrote to an English court seeking permission to have her body cryopreserved after death. Being a minor, she lacked the legal capacity to give free consent. Therefore, the consent had to come from those legally entrusted with her welfare - her natural parents who were separated. The mother was willing to give consent, while the father opposed it.

The case came before Justice Jackson of the High Court. As the girl was too unwell to appear in court, the judge visited

her in the hospital and recorded her statement. Although the scientific validity of cryonics remained speculative and ethically debatable, the judge eventually allowed the mother to decide according to the provisions of the Children Act 1989 (UK). This has since been a subject of intense scholarly debate. Further, developments in science and technology have sparked additional legal and ethical debates- such as those surrounding gender justice and gender transformation, including individuals who wish to change their gender identity.

All these developments reflect the complexities posed by fourth-generation rights. Therefore, it becomes essential for forest officers to understand these evolving societal dynamics. These complexities- arising from scientific and technological advancements, digital transformations and the overwhelming influx of information- must be understood deeply. Without such understanding, the protection of human rights, especially those connected to environmental and wildlife concerns, becomes a challenging task.

NHRC Chairperson, Justice Shri V Ramasubramanian's address at the Convocation of the Indian Forest Service probationers

On 30th July, 2025, NHRC Chairperson, Justice Shri V. Ramasubramanian delivered a thought-provoking address to the probationers at IFS Convocation 2025 at Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy (IGNFA), Dehradun. Here are the excerpts of his address:

"Today, when I was offered a scarf symbolising the completion of training, my mind went back to 1979-80, when my father wanted me to join an All India Service. I never studied as well as you have and did not even attempt the prelims, yet life's paradox has brought me here decades later to stand before you and deliver this address. I often explain life through the image of three kinds of students: the front benchers, who excel academically and usually become doctors or engineers; the middle benchers, who work hard enough to clear the civil services and later supervise the front benchers; and the back benchers, who are more socially inclined and often rise to become politicians



overseeing both. The message I wish to share is that success takes many forms, roles reverse with time and today's convocation is only the beginning of your larger journey as All India Service officers. This is an important milestone in your life. From here, where do you go?

Swami Vivekananda said, "I hold every man a traitor who, having been educated at the expense of the masses and pays not the least heed to them." You have become an All India Service officer and not an employee. Our ancestors made a very clear distinction between people who take jobs, who go for employment and people who enter service.

A government servant does not merely hold a job but enters into service, which is distinct from regular employment in companies or factories governed by contracts or labour laws. Protected by the Constitution under Articles 309, 311 and 312, government service ensures that one cannot be dismissed, removed, or demoted without due process. Thus, government service is regarded as a status rather than mere employment, a distinction you all must recognise.

From my experience of 23 years as an Advocate and later 17 years in the judiciary, I have learnt lessons that no university or academy can teach—life itself is the greatest teacher if we are willing to learn. The first and most important principle I want to share with you is this: never break a rule, irrespective of the temptation or threat. If you stand firm, you may face short-term hardships like transfers to remote places, but in the long run you will earn respect and true gains. Those who break rules may enjoy short-term rewards, but they ultimately face long-term penalties. Therefore, never break a rule. The moment you start breaking a rule, there is no end to it. This is the first lesson, which I would request you to kindly bear in mind.

The second principle I have learnt is to never ill-treat subordinates or colleagues. In the Tamil Ramayana, Rama himself advises Sugriva that mistreating a subordinate can ruin an entire career. He recalls how, as a child, he once mocked a maid named Manthara, who later influenced Kaikeyi and caused him to lose his kingdom for fourteen years. That story reminds me that no matter how high we rise, treating subordinates with respect is essential.

The third lesson is that in public service, we must always be people-friendly, though not always able to do what people want. A Guru once blessed a new entrant to service, saying: "You may not always oblige, but you can always talk obligingly." I have seen how this attitude, along with consistency, sustains respect. A person consistently bad becomes accepted, but inconsistency in conduct wins no admiration; while it may be impossible to be good to everyone, one must

strive to remain steady in dealings. My final lesson is that whatever we give in life always returns to us. Whether willingly or not, knowingly or not, we must one day reap what we sow. This is a truth I have witnessed time and again. I will just narrate a story and complete my address.

There was a great doctor by the name of Dr Howard Kelly, who was born into a poor family in the United States and struggled even to meet the cost of his education. To survive, he sold milk and newspapers in his neighbourhood. Once, after going without food, he knocked on a door intending to ask for bread, but when a young girl of his age opened it, he felt ashamed. Instead, he asked only for a glass of water. The girl, however, saw the hunger in his eyes and offered him a glass of milk. When he tried to pay, she refused, saying it was given out of friendship and compassion. Years later, Dr Kelly rose to become a famous physician and founder of a hospital. One day, he came across a patient in desperate need of multiple expensive surgeries. When he reviewed her case, he discovered she was the very same girl who had once given him milk. He ensured she received the best care, and when the time came for her discharge, she trembled at the thought of the hospital bill. I normally say that when you have a heart attack and go to your hospital, they treat you well. But when you get the bill, you suffer a second heart attack for which money alone is the cure.

So, when she was frightened of receiving the bill, the Superintendent told the patient that the doctor had written something on a slip of paper and kept it in a sealed envelope. When this lady opened the envelope, it was written by Dr Howard Kelly that "This bill has been paid in full forty years ago with a glass of milk." This story has always reminded me of a profound truth: what we give selflessly will return to us in ways we cannot imagine, multiplied many times over. Just as kindness comes back manifold, so too must anything unjustly taken be repaid, often with greater cost. This is a lesson I urge you to carry with you in life and service.

Interestingly, one of the earliest convocation addresses to be found in the whole world, probably, is that which is found in the Shikshavalli of the Taittiriya Upanishad. A student completes his education and goes out. He asks the teacher, 'What is my take?' The teacher says, 'Satyam Vada Dharmam Chara'—follow the truth, follow Dharma. That is the purpose of education, and that, I think, should be the message that you should all take on this convocation today. I congratulate all of you for having succeeded in your ambition and becoming an All India Service officer. Today, you have a sense of achievement. After 30-40 years, when you retire, you must have a sense of fulfilment. Thank you very much."

Important interventions

Irregularities in the case of a fake doctor working as a Cardiologist

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India in an enquiry found several irregularities in the case of a fake doctor working as a Cardiologist at the Mission Hospital in Damoh, Madhya Pradesh. Accordingly, it has made several recommendations to the state government and the Centre seeking action taken reports. The Commission had registered the case on the basis of a complaint on 28th March, 2025 and conducted its enquiry besides seeking reports from the concerned state authorities on the matter.

The Commission has recommended that the Government of Madhya Pradesh pay Rs 10 Lakh each as relief to the next of kin of all seven patients who died following treatment by this fake Cardiologist. The Commission has also recommended cancellation of the license of the Mission Hospital until the final disposal of the matter besides issuing necessary directions to officials to inspect all Cath labs, which are functional in the state. Further, the state government shall also issue necessary directions to verify whether all the doctors are qualified to work in the Cath labs or not.

Some of the other recommendations of the NHRC to the state government are as follows:

- Whether any information was shared with the Chief Medical and Health Officer (CMHO), Damoh regarding performing surgery, details about the patients' medical history and any relevant test results or about the specific procedure, its potential risks and benefits and any alternative treatment options;
- Look into the irregularities related to the lease, transfer and unauthorised construction on Plot No. 86/1 and initiate necessary disciplinary and legal action against the erring officials;
- The Director General of Police, Madhya Pradesh to initiate departmental action against the concerned police officers who committed negligence in the registration of an FIR on the matter and the investigation into it. He has also been asked to register separate FIRs as per procedural law and legal principles against the accused persons and management of the Mission Hospital including charges related to culpable homi-

cide, fraud, cheating, forgery, medical negligence, malpractice, misappropriation of funds etc.

- Investigate through the EOW, as well as the Chief Commissioner of Income Tax (Exemptions) Bhopal, the misuse of the Ayushman Bharat Scheme by Mission Hospital and foreign donations for the treatment of patients having an Ayushman card;
- Provide protection to the complainants, who played a key role in exposing a criminal syndicate operating under the guise of a hospital in accordance with the provisions of the Whistle Blowers Protection Act, 2014;
- Secretary, Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to get the verification done of Cath Labs across the country and issue directions to all State Governments to check the implementation of Ayushman Bharat Scheme in letter and spirit.

Inhuman treatment of a 5-year-old student in a school

On the recommendations of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India in a case of inhuman treatment to a 5-year-old student in a private school by the teacher and staff in Rewa, the Government of Madhya Pradesh has paid Rs 50,000/- as relief to the victim. In response to the Commission's notices followed by the conditional summons to the District Collector on the matter, it was informed that the services of an erring attendant have been terminated and the class teacher has been suspended for six months.

The reports from the district authorities revealed that the class teacher sent the child to an attendant who forced him to wash his soiled clothes and put them on, resulting in his illness. An FIR was also registered under Section 238 BNS read with 75 JJ Act on the matter, which is under investigation.

The Commission had registered the case on 23rd January, 2025 in this regard. Based on the material on record, the Commission observed that evidently the accused attendant and class teacher must have used force, causing the child mental and physical suffering along with humiliation before the entire class.

Section 17 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, prohibits any child from being subjected to physical punishment or mental harassment.

Suo motu cognizance

The media reports have been a very useful instrument for the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India, to know about the incidents of human rights violations. Over the years, it has taken *suo motu* cognizance of many such issues and brought succour to the victims of human rights violations. During July, 2025, the Commission took *suo motu* cognizance of 10 cases of alleged human rights violations reported by the media and issued notices to the concerned authorities for reports. Summaries of some of these cases are as follows:

Drowning of two male kids in public places

(Case No. 14635/24/30/2025 and Case No. 3370/30/6/2025)

The media reported incidents of the drowning of two male kids in Delhi and Greater NOIDA, in the Gautam Budh Nagar district in Delhi-NCR on 7th July, 2025. In Delhi, a 4-year-old boy fell into an open drain and died in the Mahendra Park area of the North-West District. Reportedly, this was not an isolated incident of this kind in the national capital. In Greater NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh, a 6-year-old boy drowned in a water body inside a park. Reportedly, the authorities did not take any action to address the issue of the dangers of the water body in the park when informed.

The Commission has observed that the contents of the media reports in both incidents, if true, raise serious issues of violation of human rights. Therefore, in the incident that happened in Delhi, the Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary, Police Commissioner and the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation of Delhi, calling for a detailed report on the matter.

Further, in the incident that happened in Greater NOIDA, the Commission has issued notices to the Chairman, GNDA and the Police Commissioner, Gautam Budh Nagar, calling for a detailed report.

Killing five members of a family on suspicion of witchcraft

(Case No. 2903/4/27/2025)

On 8th July, 2025, the media reported that five members of a Scheduled Tribe family, including three women, were hacked to death and burnt on suspicion of practicing witchcraft in the Purnia district of Bihar on 6th July, 2025. The Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police, Bihar calling for a detailed report on the matter, including the present status of the investigation and arrest of the perpetrators.

The Commission has also directed the State Government to provide counseling and take steps to ensure the safety of the 16-year-old boy, who is, reportedly, the sole survivor of the victim's family and an eyewitness to the painful incident.

3 die after train hits a school van at a level crossing

(Case No. 1667/22/46/2025)

On 9th July, 2025, the media reported that a passenger train hit a school van at a level crossing in the Cuddalore district of Tamil Nadu, killing three children and injuring several others on 8th July, 2025. Reportedly, the gate was open at the level crossing, and a train was passing through when the incident occurred. Reportedly, an

underpass has been sanctioned by the Southern Railway in place of this level crossing, but it has been pending for approval from the District Collector for the last one year.

The Commission has issued notices to the Chairman, Railway Board, Ministry of Railways, as well as the Chief Secretary and the Director General of Police, Tamil Nadu, calling for a detailed report on the matter, including the present health status of the persons who sustained injuries in the incident.

Gang rape of a woman inside a stationary train compartment

(Case No. 1613/7/19/2025-WC)

On 8th July, 2025, the media reported that a woman was allegedly gang-raped in an empty compartment of a stationary train in Panipat city of Haryana and later thrown on the rail tracks by the perpetrators, where a train ran over her leg. She is undergoing treatment at a hospital after police found her on the railway tracks near Hindu College, in Sonapat on the night of 26th June, 2025.

The Commission has issued notices to the Chairman, Railway Board, Ministry of Railways and the Director General of Police, Haryana, calling for a detailed report on the matter. The report is expected to include the status of the health of the victim and compensation if any, provided to her by the authorities.

Suicides after alleged physical torture in police custody

(Case No. 3439/30/7/2025 and Case No. 15376/24/25/2025)

Two men were reported to have committed suicide reportedly after alleged physical torture in police custody in Nangli Vihar of Delhi and in the Farrukhabad district of Uttar Pradesh on 12th and 15th July, 2025 respectively. Reportedly, both men were called to the police stations for questioning in two different matters on complaints of theft and domestic violence. On the matter in Delhi, the Commission has issued a notice to the Commissioner of Police, Delhi and in Uttar Pradesh, calling for detailed reports.

Death of a labourer while digging a sewer pit

(Case No. 2197/20/1/2025)

On 15th July, 2025, the media reported that a 50-year-old labourer was buried when the soil caved in a 30-feet sewer pit being dug in a power house campus of Ajmer district, Rajasthan on 14th July, 2025. Reportedly, the other labourers managed to save themselves. The Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan and the Commissioner of Police, Ajmer, calling for a detailed report on the matter. The report is expected to include compensation, if any, provided to the next of kin (NoK) of the deceased.

7 students die after collapse of a school building

(Case No. 2294/20/17/2025)

The media reported that a government school building collapsed resulting in the death of seven children and injuries to 28 others in the Jhalawar district of Rajasthan on 25th July, 2025. Reportedly, citing negligence of the administration, the local residents had informed the district authorities about the dilapidated condition of the school building, but no action was taken. The Commission has issued notices to the Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan and the Superintendent of Police, Jhalawar, calling for a detailed report on the matter.

Recommendations for relief

One of the primary responsibilities of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India is to address cases of human rights violations, listen to the grievances of victims and recommend appropriate relief in such instances. It regularly takes up various such cases and gives directions and recommenda-

tions to the concerned authorities for relief to the victims. In July, 2025, besides the number of cases taken up daily by the Member Benches, 19 cases were heard by the Full Commission and 10 cases each by Bench-III. Monetary relief of more than Rs 21 lakh was recommended for the victims or their next of kin (NoK) in the 05 cases,

wherein it was found that public servants had either violated human rights or been negligent in protecting them. The specific details of these cases can be downloaded from the NHRC website by logging the case number given in the table below:

S. No.	Case Number	Nature of complaint	Amount (Rs in lakh)	Authority
1.	216/3/11/2023-JCD	Death in judicial custody	5.00	Assam
2.	7758/30/9/2021-JCD	Death in judicial custody	5.00	Delhi
3.	1461/20/22/2023-JCD	Death in judicial custody	5.00	Rajasthan
4.	2717/25/19/2023-PCD	Death in judicial custody	5.00	West Bengal
5.	675/25/5/2022-JCD	Death in judicial custody	1.00	West Bengal

Payment of relief to the victims

During July, 2025, the Commission closed 19 cases, either on receipt of the compliance reports and proof of payment from the public

authorities or by giving other observations/ directions. Rs 53.35 lakh was paid to the victims or their next of kin (NoK) on the recommendations of the Commission.

The specific details of these cases can be downloaded from the NHRC website by logging the case number given in the table below:

S. No.	Case Number	Nature of complaint	Amount (Rs in lakh)	Authority
1.	3100/4/30/2020-JCD	Death in judicial custody	5.00	Bihar
2.	179/30/2/2024-JCD	Death in judicial custody	3.00	Delhi
3.	2670/18/28/2020-JCD	Death in judicial custody	5.00	Odisha
4.	310/20/7/2024-JCD	Death in judicial custody	5.00	Rajasthan
5.	754/33/26/2022-AD	Death in judicial custody	3.00	Chhattisgarh
6.	4449/18/2/2022-AD	Death in judicial custody	5.00	Odisha
7.	1088/34/14/2019-DH	Death in judicial custody	0.5	Jharkhand
8.	2842/7/3/2022	Death due to electrocution	4.00	Haryana
9.	227/34/16/2023	Disability Pension	0.25	Jharkhand
10.	304/18/12/2024	Unlawful detention	5.00	Odisha
11.	3115/18/0/2022	Death due to electrocution	5.00	Odisha
12.	4494/30/9/2023-WC	Non- registration of an FIR on a complaint of sexual assault	0.5	Delhi
13.	11189/24/22/2022-WC	Police inaction in a case of beating and outraging woman's modesty	0.5	Uttar Pradesh
14.	11416/24/28/2022	Failure in taking lawful action	2.00	Uttar Pradesh
15.	27421/24/19/2022	Failure in taking lawful action	1.00	Uttar Pradesh
16.	8107/24/3/2023	Man mauled to death by street dogs	0.75	Uttar Pradesh
17.	1111/35/7/2022	Corporal punishment	0.5	Uttarakhand
18.	69/35/12/2024	Inaction on a complaint of assault by a police personnel	0.5	Uttarakhand
19.	114/25/5/2023	Abuse of power by police personnel	0.1	West Bengal

Case studies

In many cases, the Commission, contrary to the claims of the concerned State authorities, found that the human rights of the victims were violated due to their unlawful action, inaction or omission. Therefore, the Commission, under the Protection of Human Rights Act, issued show cause notices as to why monetary relief should not be recommended to be paid to the victim of human rights violation or their next of kin and action against the erring/ negligent officials on a case-to-case basis. The merits of the states' approach to responding to its show cause notices prompted the Commission to recommend monetary relief to the victims of human rights violations or their next of kin. The Commission also received reports of compliance with its recommendations by the respective state authorities. Summaries of some of such cases are as under:

Death of a newborn baby

(Case No. 1088/34/14/2019-DH)

The matter pertained to the death of a newborn baby while in the custody of Mandal Jail, Pakur, Jharkhand in 2019. Based on the material on record, received in response to its notices to the concerned authorities, the Commission found that the newborn baby died due to negligence on the part of the jail administration. It held the state responsible for the negligence of its employees and the Commission issued a notice to the Government of Jharkhand to show cause why it should not recommend the payment of Rs 50,000/- to the NoK of the deceased baby. However, having received no response to it, the Commission confirmed its recommendation of relief to the victim's family, which, after subsequent reminders to the State, was complied with.

Suicide in prison

(Case No. 2670/18/28/2020-JCD)

The matter pertained to the death of a prisoner at Biju Patnaik Open Air Ashram, Jamujhari, Khorda, Odisha in 2020. Based on the material on record, received in response to its notices to the concerned authorities, the Commission found that the inmate managed to attempt suicide in the prison premises, indicating negligence on the part of the watch and ward staff. The Commission observed that the wellness and security of the prisoners are the responsibility of the jail authorities. Therefore, the Commis-

sion recommended that the Government of Odisha pay Rs 5 lakh as relief to the NoK of the victim, which was paid.

Death of an under trial prisoner

(Case No. 4449/18/2/2022-AD)

The matter pertained to the suicide of an under trial prisoner inside Kantabanji Sub-Jail premises in Bolangir, Odisha in 2022. Based on the material on record, received in response to its notices to the concerned authorities, the Commission found that the Enquiry Magistrate did not find negligence of prison staff in the incident. However, it did not agree with this report, as the prisoner committed suicide in judicial custody under the care and protection of the state. Therefore, it recommended that the Government of Odisha pay Rs 5 lakh as relief to the next of kin of the victim, which was paid.

Assault on a woman

(Case No. 4494/30/9/2023-WC)

The matter pertained to the rape of a woman by her landlord in West Delhi in 2023. She alleged that the Police refused to register her complaint and pressurised her to compromise with the perpetrator, failing which they would falsely implicate one of her friends. Based on the material on record, received in response to its notices to the concerned authorities, the Commission found that the police failed in their statutory duties and violated the laws enacted to protect the

rights of victims. Therefore, the Commission recommended that the Government of Delhi pay Rs 50,000/- as relief to the victim, which was paid after a subsequent follow-up with the authorities.

Assault by police

(Case No. 69/35/12/2024)

The matter pertained to the reported abuse and assault on a man by police personnel of the Kashipur police station in Udham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand in 2024. Reportedly, the complainant alleged that the accused police officer took the key of his motorcycle without any reason and told him to get it from the police station. Based on the material on record, received in response to its notices to the concerned authorities, the Commission found that the accused Constable misused his authority and unlawfully acted, violating the fundamental right to life and liberty of the complainant for which the state government is vicariously liable. Therefore, the Commission recommended that the Government of Uttarakhand pay Rs 50,000/- as relief to the victim, which it paid, and the erring Constable was issued a warning.

Beating of a man by police

(Case No. 304/18/12/2024)

The matter pertained to the severe beating of a man by a police official of the Balanga Police Station in Puri, Odisha in 2024. He was being forced to

sign a blank paper and threatened that if he failed to do so, he would be killed in an encounter along with his brother after implicating them in a false case. The Inspector-in-Charge remained passive despite being aware of the

atrocities taking place under his jurisdiction. Based on the material on record, received in response to its notices to the concerned authorities, the Commission found that the allegations of illegal detention and

torture were, prima facie, established. The Commission recommended that the Government of Odisha pay Rs 5 lakh as relief to the victim, which was paid.

Field visits

The Chairperson, Members and senior officers of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India visit various places in the country from time to time to assess the human rights situation and the status of the implementation of the Commission's advisories, guidelines and recommendations by the respective state governments and their concerned authorities. They also visit shelter homes, prisons, observation homes, etc. and sensitise the government functionaries to make necessary efforts towards ameliorating the cause of human rights. Submission of timely reports by the state authorities to help the Commission in the early disposal of cases of human rights violations is also emphasised.

Visits by NHRC, India Member to Anganwadi Centres

In July, 2025, NHRC India Member, Smt Vijaya Bharathi Sayani, visited various places in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, to interact with Anganwadi teachers and ASHA workers and other community staff to understand their problems and challenges in line of their duties.



► NHRC Member, Smt Vijaya Bharathi Sayani interacting with Anganwadi teachers, ASHA workers among others in Tirupati, Annamayya district, Andhra Pradesh

On 7th July, 2025, she held an interactive session with the Anganwadi teachers from 35 centers in Secunderabad-Musheerabad, Telangana. On 19th July, she interacted with Anganwadi teachers, ASHA workers and members of local Velugu groups in Dhanalakshmi Nagar, Oteru and Mallangunta wards in Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.

The Anganwadi teachers and ASHA workers shared similar concerns including over workload, inadequate compensation, weak infrastructure, lack of recognition and work without sufficient resources or support, affecting their ability to effectively serve the people. The teachers also highlighted unpaid rents, heavy multitasking due to staff shortages and irregular honorariums. They underscored the exclusion from social welfare benefits, outdated smartphones, delayed supplies and the closure of training centres.

Other spot visits

On 11th July, 2025, Smt Vijaya Bharathi Sayani visited a graveyard in Matchha Bollaram, Alwal, Secunderabad after complaints of waste dumping there was hurting sentiments and causing environmental harm. She directed authorities to clean it immediately.



► NHRC Member, Smt Vijaya Bharathi Sayani interacting with officers and the local people at a graveyard in Matchha Bollaram, Alwal, Secunderabad

On 24th July, 2025, she also visited Kapra Lake in Medchal Malkajgiri District, Telangana, to review the progress of its restoration. During her last visit on 13th September, 2024, hazardous waste was pointed out to the authorities for removal. Expressing concern over the slow progress, she urged the Civic, Revenue and Irrigation authorities present on the spot to accelerate the work.

On 26th July, 2025, the Member visited Sri Ranganayaka Swamy Lake in S.S. Sai district, Andhra Pradesh, on a complaint alleging farmers being denied access to its water for irrigation for 16 years by a fishermen's society despite several complaints. In her presence and with officials from Revenue, Irrigation, Fisheries and Police departments, both parties reached a mutual agreement to resolve the issue, offering long-awaited relief to affected farmers.

Special Rapporteurs and Special Monitors

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India has designated Special Rapporteurs to monitor human rights conditions across various regions of the country. They conduct visits to shelter homes, prisons, observation homes and similar institutions, compiling reports for the Commission that detail their observations and suggestions for future action. Additionally, the Commission has also appointed Special Monitors tasked with overseeing specific thematic human rights issues and reporting their findings to the Commission. Here is a brief on the spot visits by the Special Monitors to numerous locations during July, 2025.

Special Monitors

- From 1st - 8th July, 2025, NHRC, India Special Monitor, Shri Balkrishan Goel visited Old Age Homes, Child Care Institutions, Observation Homes and Anganwadi Centres in Rajasthan to assess the human rights situation.



► NHRC, India Special Monitor, Shri Balkrishan Goel interacting with the officers and workers at Jodhpur Rural Anganwadi centre, Rajasthan

- From 4th - 9th July, 2025, Shri Prem Singh Bisht visited Gwalior/Bhopal district and the area around in Madhya Pradesh to see the Public Sector Units prone to human rights violations due to business activities and the steps taken for promoting human rights in business and industrial set up.
- From 7th - 10th July, 2025, Shri Rakesh Asthana visited rehabilitation centres for drug addicts in and around Shillong, Meghalaya. He held discussions with the state government officials with regard to drug de-addiction and rehabilitation programmes run by them and the anti-drug trafficking policy of the state.
- From 21st - 26th July, 2025, Dr Pradeepta Kumar Nayak met the State Leprosy Officer (SLO), Gujarat to assess the human rights situation and the status of welfare measures for the Leprosy-affected persons and the other vulnerable groups in the State. In this connection, he also visited the Districts Ahmedabad, Kheda, Anand and Vadodara in the state and met the district-level officials of the Health and Leprosy programme, Social Security, Social Welfare, Mental Health, Education, Livelihood, Aajeevika, Women and Child Development, SC/ ST, Minorities and OBCs and officers in the other Departments, Hospitals, Community Health Centres, Primary Health Centres, General Communities and Leprosy Colonies.

Capacity Building

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India is mandated to protect and promote human rights and build awareness about the same. For this purpose, it has been conducting internship programmes, collaborative training and various other activities to expand its outreach and human rights sensitisation. Internships are conducted in person as well as online. The online internships are organised to ensure that students from remote areas can join without any expenses for their travel and stay in Delhi. In addition, the Commission also organises a tailored human rights training programme for the officers of various services as part of its mission to uphold and safeguard human rights across all institutions, ensuring that the rights and dignity of every individual are protected.

2-day training programme on human rights for Indian Forest Service Probationers

On 17th July, 2025, as a part of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India's ongoing initiative to sensitise and build capacities on human rights at the cutting-edge level of All India Services officers, a 2-day training programme was organised by the Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy (IGNFA) for the 2023 batch of the Indian Forest Service (IFS) probationers in Dehradun.

Inaugurating the programme, the NHRC, India Chairperson, Justice Shri V. Ramasubramanian said that under Article 48A of the Constitution, while the State shall endeavour to protect and improve the environment and safeguard the forests and wildlife of the country, it is also the fundamental duty of every citizen under Article 51A (g) to protect and improve the natural environment, including forests, lakes, rivers, and wildlife and to have compassion for living creatures.

Tracing the historical development of the evolution of human rights and the international perspective surrounding them, Justice Ramasubramanian highlighted the swift and steady progress in the recognition and enforcement of human rights across the world, beginning from the Charter of Cyrus, Magna Carta, the Bill of Rights to the 12th, 13th and 14th amendments to the US Constitution, the



► NHRC, India Chairperson, Justice Shri V Ramasubramanian addressing the Indian Forest Service (IFS) probationers at IGNFA, Dehradun



► A section of Indian Forest Service (IFS) probationers

French Revolution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948.

In this context, he also elaborated on the categorisation of human rights into four generations: the first generation comprising civil and political rights; the second generation encompassing social, economic and cultural rights; the third generation, often referred to as collective rights, which gained prominence following the 1992 Rio Declaration; and the fourth generation, which includes emerging rights in response to rapid technological advancements and global challenges of the 21st century. He said that there are complex ethical concerns arising from developments in artificial intelligence, biotechnology, digital privacy and environmental sustainability, which need to be addressed. Excerpts of his speech have been carried in the article section of this Newsletter.

Before this, in his keynote address, NHRC, India Secretary General, Shri Bharat Lal highlighted India's robust institutional and constitutional framework for the protection of human rights. He said that the concept of human rights is deeply rooted in the nation's civilisational and cultural ethos of empathy, compassion, non-violence and human dignity. Citing

historical examples, he noted India's tradition of providing refuge to persecuted communities and described figures like Mahatma Gandhi, Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Dr B. R. Ambedkar as early champions of human rights. Underscoring the role of Fundamental Rights, Directive Principles and judicial tools like writs under Articles 32 and 226 in safeguarding people's rights, he emphasised the importance of Public Interest Litigation in protecting human rights and ensuring justice.

Shri Lal elaborated on the pivotal role of the NHRC, India, as the apex body for human rights protection, which also coordinates with the other National Commissions and State Human Rights Commissions (SHRCs), offering accessible complaint mechanisms in various official Indian languages besides English. The Commission takes *suo motu* cognizance of the serious issues of human rights violations, monitors human rights violations and issues advisories. It also engages in field-level work through Special Rapporteurs, core groups' meetings, open house discussions and camp sittings promoting awareness and capacity-building. As a part of its outreach, NHRC also supports research studies and training and conducts internship programmes. He urged young IFS officers to ensure the inclusion of tribal communities and



► NHRC, India Secretary General, Shri Bharat Lal addressing the Indian Forest Service (IFS) probationers at IGNFA, Dehradun



► Shri Jagmohan Sharma, Director, IGNFA , Dehradun addressing the Indian Forest Service (IFS) probationers

other forest dwellers in managing forests and wildlife. They must ensure that local communities are involved in ongoing conservation efforts and respect their rights for sustainability.

Earlier, outlining the objective of the training programme, Shri Jagmohan Sharma, Director, IGNFA, said that it aims to integrate the principle of human rights and dignity into environmental governance and equip the IFS probationers with the related key legislative and best practices from across the country. He noted that India has made significant strides in the protection and promotion of human rights. He also highlighted the vital role of the NHRC in safeguarding the rights of the marginalised and vulnerable population in the country.

The training programme was spread into 13 theme-based sessions being addressed by eminent domain experts like Shri Rajiv Jain, former NHRC Member; Shri Rajiv Kumar, former Chief Election Commissioner; Shri Prasant Kumar, Member, CAT Srinagar; Dr S. P. Yadav, DG, International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA); Shri R. R. Rashmi, former Special Secretary, MoEFCC; Dr C. N. Pandey, former PCCF (HoFF), Gujarat; Smt Meenakshi Negi, PCCF (HoFF), Karnataka; Ms Sunita Narain, DG, Centre for Science and Environment (CSE); Shri D. K. Nim, former Joint Secretary, NHRC; and Shri Franklin L. Khobung, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare.

The NHRC organised a similar training programme for the Indian Police Service probationers in coordination with the SVPNPA, Hyderabad recently. The Indian Foreign Service probationers were addressed by the NHRC Secretary General, Shri Bharat Lal, while undergoing training at Sushma Swaraj National Institute of Foreign Service, New Delhi to sensitise them about various dimensions of human rights. He also addressed a batch of foreign diplomats undergoing training at this centre, which was followed by Q&A session.

Summer Internship Programme

On 11th July, 2025, the coveted four-week Summer Internship Programme (SIP) of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India, concluded in New Delhi. 80 students selected from different universities across the country for the internship were exposed to the various aspects of human rights advocacy and the Commission's activities promoting and protecting human rights.

Addressing the valedictory session, Justice Shri V. Ramasubramanian, Chairperson, NHRC, India, urged the

interns to prioritise human connection and kindness over material pursuits, fostering a society united by shared humanity. He highlighted the bonds formed among interns from diverse backgrounds as the programme's true wealth.



► NHRC, India Chairperson, Justice Shri V. Ramasubramanian addressing the valedictory session of the Summer Internship Programme

He emphasised that true success lies in touching lives by showing compassion. Wishing the interns a bright and meaningful future, he encouraged them to strive to evolve as better people every day to contribute more meaningfully in society through their skills and humanity.



► A section of interns and NHRC officers

Before this, congratulating the interns, Shri Bharat Lal, Secretary General, NHRC, India, in his keynote address, underscored the significance of maintaining good intentions and integrity in all endeavours. He advised the interns to carefully consider not only their actions but also what they should avoid, emphasising that ethical decisions, however small, have a profound impact on society. He further encouraged them to reflect and align with core values and principles when faced with uncertainty in life as a way forward.



► NHRC, India Secretary General, Shri Bharat Lal addressing the interns

Smt Saidingpuii Chhakchhuak, Joint Secretary, NHRC, India presented the internship report, highlighting the programme's achievements and announcing the winners of the book review, group research project presentation and declamation competitions.



► NHRC, Joint Secretary, Smt Saidingpuii Chhakchhuak presenting the internship report

Throughout the programme, interns engaged in sessions led by esteemed professionals, including the NHRC Chairperson, Members, current and former union Secretaries, officers of several Commissions, ministries, directors of civil society organisations and other experts. These sessions provided invaluable insights into the Commission's work and the challenges surrounding human rights violations.

The programme also featured field visits to key institutions such as Tihar Jail, SHEOWS NGO, National Commission for Women, and National Green Tribunal. These visits offered interns a first-hand understanding of ground realities and the practical aspects of human rights advocacy.

Senior NHRC, India officers including Shri R.P. Meena, Director General (Investigation), Shri Joginder Singh,

Registrar (Law), Shri Samir Kumar, Joint Secretary and Lt. Col. Virender Singh, Director, NHRC, India were present.

Workshops

- From 17th-19th July, 2025, NHRC, India in collaboration with the Christ University, Bengaluru organised a three-day workshop on human rights. The workshop covered key topics: the NHRC's role in the unorganised sector and gig workers, access to justice at the intersection of law and human rights and National Education Policy 2020 implementation. Shri Devesh Saxena, Consultant (Research) represented the Commission as one of the resource persons. The event saw participation from 150 law students.



- From 30th - 31st July, 2025, NHRC, India in collaboration with the Kerala Judicial Academy organised a 2-day special training programme on human rights for about 50 Sessions Judges and Judicial First Class Magistrates at the Kerala Judicial Academy, Athani, Ernakulam, Kerala. In his inaugural address, NHRC Chairperson, Justice Shri V. Ramasubramanian underscored the





► Training Programme on human rights in progress at the Kerala Judicial Academy, Athani, Ernakulam, Kerala

indispensable role of judicial officers in upholding human rights at the grassroots level. He said that their solemn duty is to ensure rigorous compliance with the Criminal Procedure Code, particularly through timely physical examinations of detained persons, to safe-

guard justice and accountability. Justice Ramasubramanian urged them to strengthen their resolve in advancing constitutional mandates and the NHRC's objectives under the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.

Exposure visits

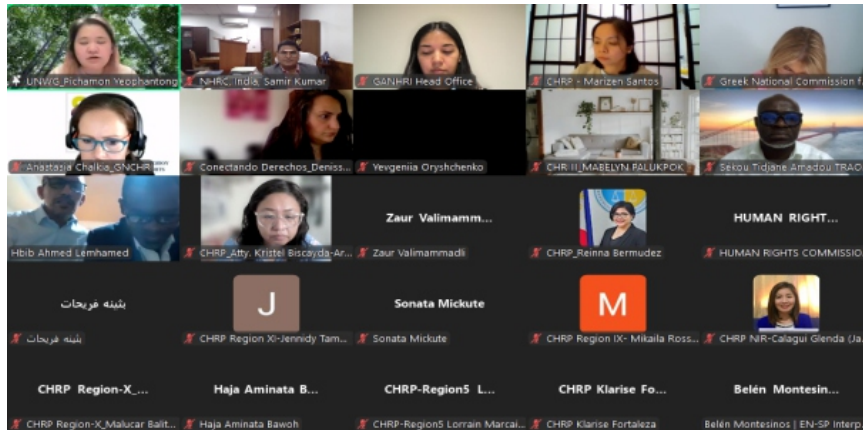
- On 21st July, 2025, a group of 10 trainee prison officials from the Academy of Prisons and Correctional Administration, Vellore in Tamil Nadu and 25 students and a faculty member from the National University of Study and Research in Law, Ranchi, Jharkhand, visited NHRC. Senior officers briefed them about human rights, processing and management of rights violation complaints, as well as enquiries into them.



NHRC in the International arena

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India, continues to engage with various international programmes to foster an exchange of ideas on various aspects of human rights. Several foreign institutional delegates visit the Commission and meet the Chairperson, Members and senior officers to understand the functioning of the Commission for promoting and protecting human rights. The Commission's Chairperson, Members and other senior officers also visit various international forums to share their thoughts on the achievements of the Commission, interact with other NHRIs, and discuss the challenges to human rights in the fast-evolving world.

- On 9th July, 2025, the 'GANHRI Working Group on Business and Human Rights' organised an online learning call. Shri Samir Kumar, Joint Secretary, NHRC, India represented the Commission in the meet.



- On 23rd July, 2025 an online stakeholder consultation organised by the UN Network on Migration was held to gather inputs to the fourth Secretary-General's biennial report as called for by the 'Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM)' developed by the Network Executive Committee. Shri Samir Kumar, Joint Secretary, NHRC, India represented the Commission in the meet.
- On 29th July 2025, he also attended GANHRI's Learning Call on 'Gender Equality, Business, and Human Rights.'

News from State Human Rights Commissions

Given the ever-expanding dimensions of human life and related challenges, the promotion and protection of human rights is always a work in progress. In India, besides the democratically elected governments, constitutionally committed to ensuring the welfare of the people by protecting their basic human rights, there are institutions of legislature, judiciary, a vibrant media, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and State Human Rights Commissions (SHRCs), as well as the other National Commissions and their state counterparts working as watchdogs of rights and welfare measures related to various segments of society. This column intends to highlight the exceptional activities of the SHRCs undertaken to protect and promote human rights.

Arunachal Pradesh State Human Rights Commission

The Arunachal Pradesh State Human Rights Commission (APSHRC) conducted its first internship programme from 8th to 18th July, 2025. Eight students from institutions in Ziro, Lekhi, and Guwahati attended. It included expert sessions, departmental exposure and field visits to deepen students' understanding of human rights. Objectives included fostering critical thinking,



▶ APSHRC officers with the interns

offering exposure to statutory human rights functions, and inspiring them to evolve as future public policy professionals. Visits to police stations, NGOs and sports academies enriched their experience. The APSHRC plans to institutionalise this programme by organising it every year, from now onwards, with expanded participation and thematic areas of learning.

Telangana State Human Rights Commission

The Telangana State Human Rights Commission (TGSHRC), led by Chairperson, Justice (Dr) Shameem Akther, undertook several activities addressing human rights violations in the state during July, 2025. A human rights awareness meeting was held with doctors and staff at Choutuppal Government Hospital. Besides, the TGSHRC recommended payment of Rs 1.25 lakh each as relief to victims of expired Hepatitis-B vaccines and urged action against negligent officials. It directed the disbursement of pending wages to hostel and daily wage workers in the Tribal Welfare Department and sought disciplinary action against the erring public servants. It also directed the State DGP to prevent police misconduct, address environmental concerns from an unauthorised canteen. It also asked the concerned state authorities to ensure that the colleges holding back students' original certificates return them without charging any fee.

Punjab State and Chandigarh (U.T.) Human Rights Commission

On 28th June, 2025, Chairperson Justice Sant Parkash, Chairperson, Punjab State and Chandigarh (U.T.) Human Rights Commission (PSHRC), conducted a comprehensive inspection of Central Jail, Kapurthala. He interacted with the inmates to understand their grievances, inspected food quality and reviewed

the status of healthcare services and other basic facilities for them. The jail housed 4616 inmates, including 13 foreign nationals and 5 minor children residing with their mothers. The Commission recommended improvements like creating a buffer zone, a de-addiction centre, CCTV facilities, among others in the prison premises.

The PSHRC also welcomed Justice Gurbir Singh, former judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, as its new Member. In July, it also organised a biannual Summer Internship Programme engaging with more than 90 interns from various academic institutions across India. The Commission continued its flagship outreach initiative, 'Each One Teach Ten,' which encourages every intern to educate and sensitise at least ten individuals about human rights and the Commission's mandate. Additionally, on 24th July, 2025, 12 students from the Dayanand Public School visited the PSHRC and learnt about human rights advocacy and the Commission's role therein.

Haryana State Human Rights Commission

On 4th July, 2025, the Haryana State Human Rights Commission (HSHRC), led by Justice Lalit Batra, visited Yamunanagar District Jail to review inmate welfare. He emphasised regular psychiatric and gynaecological care for female inmates and checked childcare facilities and the quality of the food being served to the inmates. The HSHRC expressed concern over the delay in building the boundary wall of a graveyard at Dhamad village despite the availability of funds. He directed the local officials to explain the delay and provide a timeline for the completion of the work. In another case, the HSHRC fined a Sub-Inspector and a Constable Rs 50,000/- for



► PSHRC Chairperson, Justice Sant Parkash interacting with the inmates of the Kapurthala Jail, Punjab

custodial rights violations of a disabled man. The Commission also investigated the denial of a Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Antyodaya Parivar Suraksha Yojana (DAYALU) claim, which was rejected due to a clerical error. The Commission underscored the importance of safeguarding human rights and ensuring welfare schemes reach their intended beneficiaries.



► HSHRC Chairperson, Justice Lalit Batra interacting with the inmates of the Yamunanagar District Jail, Haryana

Karnataka State Human Rights Commission

On 30th July 2025, the Karnataka State Human Rights Commission (KSHRC), in collaboration with the Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, convened a meeting on 'Immoral Trafficking of Women and Children,' presided over by the NHRC, India Member, Shri Priyank Kanoongo. The meeting shed light on human trafficking, a global crime exploiting the vulnerable. Discussions focused on strengthening collective efforts to prevent trafficking, particularly of women and children, and extend support to victims. Stakeholders shared strategies and measures to combat trafficking, aiming to enhance collaboration and ensure effective protection and remedies for the victims.



► NHRC, India Member, Shri Priyank Kanoongo presiding over the KSHRC and KCPCR meeting on Immoral Trafficking of Women and Children

Madhya Pradesh State Human Rights Commission

From 16th June to 15th July, 2025, the Madhya Pradesh State Human Rights Commission (MPSHRC) organised the summer internship programme for the students of the Faculty of Law in the reputed law universities and colleges of the country.

The MPSHRC also took *suo motu* cognizance of a media report about the death of a villager in police custody. The incident raised serious concerns regarding human rights violations of the victim. It recommended that the State Administration issue orders from the Police Headquarters level to all police officers and investigators across the state, instructing them to ensure strict compliance with the provisions of Section 179 of the Indian Civil Security Code, 2023 (BNSS), which emphasises the presence of independent witnesses during proceedings. The



► MPHRC officers presenting internship certificates

Commission has directed that a compliance report be submitted.

The MPSHRC ensured the payment of Rs 11.80 lakh as relief to the next of kin of victims who died in three human rights violation cases. Rs 5 lakh each was recommended for payment by the state to the families of the two custodial death victims in Indore and Rewa respectively. Rs 1.80 lakh was recommended in a case of the death of a woman and her newborn due to medical negligence.

News in brief

- On 2nd July, 2025, NHRC, India Secretary General, Shri Bharat Lal delivered the keynote address on 'Environmental Stewardship for Sustainable Development' at the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of India, New Delhi. The audience included eminent individuals engaged in environmental conservation. He said that India's commitment to the environment is enshrined in its Constitution and reflected in our governance. Article 21 of the Constitution of India guarantees the right to life which extends to a clean and healthy environment. Forests cover 23% of our land.

Shri Lal emphasised that despite having only 4% of the world's freshwater resources, India has prioritised access to clean water and improved sanitation. The NHRC, India recognises environment, water, sanitation and climate as core components of the right to life, issuing advisories and taking proactive steps to uphold dignity.

He said that India has spearheaded global efforts through the International Solar Alliance, International Big Cat Alliance, International Biofuel Alliance and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure. At the grassroots, sustainability is a way of life, reusing cotton and cow dung and conserving water. Flagship missions like 'Swachh Bharat', 'Jal Jeevan', 'Atal



Bhujal', and 'Amrit Sarovar' empower communities to conserve and restore. The 'Ujjwala Yojana' is ensuring clean cooking fuel reaches every household. But true change lies in citizen action. We must ensure our mountains, rivers and forests remain pristine.

- On 5th July, 2025, NHRC, India Member, Smt Vijaya Bharathi Sayani addressed as Chief Guest the valedictory ceremony of the 'Students' Induction Week' at Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad. She said that studying law must not be seen by them only as a professional opportunity but also as a responsibility to empower the voiceless, restore their dignity and transform society. The Member said that the NHRC is committed to spreading human rights literacy through its various programmes like internships and partnerships with universities to provide legal aid involving law students. She urged them to join these programmes, engage in legal clinics, internships, Model UNs and grassroots work to sharpen their vision, contributing to help build a just, inclusive and humane society as a judge, lawyer or activist to evolve as a bridge between the rights and reality.



- On 8th July, 2025, NHRC, India, Presenting Officer, Shri Anjane Anuj took two sessions on 'Human Rights, UDHR, 1948: Issues and Challenges' at the Internal Security Academy, Mount Abu, Rajasthan.



- On 9th July, 2025, NHRC, India Chairperson, Justice Shri V. Ramasubramanian attended as Chief Guest the conference on importance of protecting and promoting the environment organised by Age Care India at India International Centre, New Delhi.



- On 10th July, 2025, NHRC, India Member, Smt Vijaya Bharathi Sayani spoke as the Chief Guest about 'Human Rights in National Literature' at an event organised by the NGO- Bharatiyam at Dharmapuri Kshetra, Hyderabad, Telangana. She said that the Indian literary tradition deeply reflects the philosophy of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' - the concept that the entire world is one family. This timeless value stands as a strong foundation for the protection of human rights. The Member said that Indian epics like the Ramayana and the Mahabharata embody core human rights principles - justice, equality, and dignity. She also spoke about children's rights, gender justice, among others. About 300 participants attended the programme.



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- From 10th-11th July, 2025, Smt Anjali Saklani, Assistant Director (OL) and Smt Meera Rani, Junior Hindi Translator, attended the Rajbhasha Vibhag Swarn Jayanti Samaroh at Hyderabad, Telangana.
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- On 20th July, 2025, NHRC, India Member, Smt Vijaya Bharathi Sayani delivered a speech on the theme 'Bhasa Bhavamu Bhagyamu' (Language, Emotion, and Fortune) at the SVU Innovation and Incubation Centre. She said that language is deeply connected to our culture, identity and knowledge. She said that language is essential for making our nation's rich cultural heritage accessible to all for personal growth and expression. Through language, we build understanding, cooperation and shared progress in society.



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- On 25th July, 2025, NHRC, India organised a review meeting to discuss the research study on the 'Impact of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) on ST children' in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tripura and Mizoram. The meeting was chaired by Shri Bharat Lal, Secretary General, NHRC, in the presence of Smt Sandingpuii Chhakchhuak, Joint Secretary, NHRC and Shri Prashant Kumar Meena, Additional Commissioner, NESTS (National Education Society for Tribal Students). Shri Bharat Lal offered critical suggestions to strengthen the report. He underscored the need to assess the gap between policy intent and ground-level implementation backed by relevant data and statistics, aligning the research findings more closely with the stated objectives of the study.



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- On 25th July, 2025, NHRC, India Member, Justice (Dr) Bidyut Ranjan Sarangi attended the Achievers Meet 2025 at Bhubaneswar and spoke about the importance of human rights in education.



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- On 30th July, 2025, NHRC, India Secretary General, Shri Bharat Lal delivered a keynote address on 'Education as a Human Rights: Ethics at the Core' in the Week Education Conclave 2025 on the theme 'World Class Students: Made in India' organised by 'The Week' in New Delhi. He said that education plays an important role in fostering dignity, equality and justice for all. It is not only about acquiring knowledge and skills but also about shaping character, behaviour and a sense of responsibility to evolve as global citizens. He said education in India, rooted in its rich cultural and philosophical traditions of ethics and values, plays a key role in shaping responsible, compassionate citizens. Our civilisational values are a source of strength in times of crisis and vital to solving emerging challenges. He emphasised that the long-term success of organisations depends on ethical leadership and any curriculum on ethics and values must instil the following values: Respect, accountability, service, honesty, justice and trusteeship.



- On 31st July, 2025, NHRC, India Director General (Investigation), Shri R. Prasad Meena, IPS (AM: 93) superannuated from the Commission. He joined the Commission on deputation on 18th December, 2024. Under his supervision, the investigation division conducted forty spot enquiries on complaints of violation of human rights in various states and disposed of about 1,500 cases. Based on his inputs, the Commission recommended monetary relief to a number of victims of human rights violations. While bidding him farewell, the NHRC Chairperson, Members and Secretary General acknowledged his dedication to hard work and contribution in achieving the objectives of the Commission.



Forthcoming events

**1st August,
2025**

NHRC, India will support a day-long National Conference on 'Ageing in India: Emerging Realities, Evolving Responses' being organised by the Sankala Foundation in collaboration with NITI Aayog, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

**11th August,
2025**

NHRC, India will begin its two-week short-term internship for university-level students.

Complaints in July, 2025

Number of fresh complaints received	8,912
Number of cases disposed of including old cases	4,365
Number of cases under consideration of the Commission	35,320

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