

# No one has any right to kill anybody: NHRC

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

NHRC chairperson justice (retd) Arun Kumar Mishra on Thursday extolled the ancient wisdom of India that speaks of 'ahimsa' and other human virtues, as he asserted that 'adhikar' essentially means "peaceful co-existence" and no one has any right to kill anybody or snatch someone else's bread to satiate their hunger.

In his address at a technical session held here as part of a conference on 'Human Rights in Indian Culture and Philosophy', he also said that 'ahimsa' (non-violence) via Buddhism is a "gift from India" to the wider world.

His comments come in the backdrop of brutal killing of a tailor in Udaipur by two men who had posted videos online that claimed they were avenging an insult to Islam.

The two-day event is being hosted by the National



Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in collaboration with Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA).

"Words used in our scriptures, Vedas, Puranas, Mahabharata, teaching of our great persons... Ahimsa was talked of," Mishra said.

The NHRC chief then cited Mahatma Gandhi, Raja Rammohun Roy, Swami Vivekananda, Ramakrishna Paramahansa, Dayanand Saraswati and said, "then we

have to remember Akbar also" in this context.

"Gandhi, Patel lived with 'ahimsa', it is taught in Jainism and Buddhism too. Forty-seven countries have adopted Buddhism, it is gift from India -- 'ahimsa'. What Ashoka borrowed from Buddhism - 'ahimsa'... What we have given to the entire world is being talked about today. Indian culture, we have not forgotten, it is in our blood," he said.

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# Need UAPA for terrorists, those who behead people: Minister

## NHRC Chief Says No Religion Has Hegemony In India

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Union minister RK Singh on Thursday said special laws like the Crime Control Act and Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) are not only necessary to rein in terrorists and “those who behead people”, but also to protect the rights and lives of others.

Speaking at the first Convention on Human Rights in Indian Culture and Philosophy here, Singh said, “You have to have laws like UAPA, so we can act against terrorists and those who behead other people. This is to protect the rights of others and make sure that people who don’t listen to the diktats of terrorists are not wiped out.”

The former Union home secretary said, “The infringement on due process of few citizens is to protect larger



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humanity... It is to make sure that people don’t get shot (like in Jammu and Kashmir) because they belong to a particular religion. That is the fact of life which has to be imbibed and accepted.”

Singh’s reference to UAPA came in the backdrop of the two youths, who beheaded a tailor in Udaipur over a social media post, being booked under the anti-terror law. He said protection of human rights is part of every Indian’s DNA and laws UAPA have to kick in when legal

systems to identify people who violate the rights of others fail and supportive mechanisms are needed.

NHRC chairman Justice Arun Kumar Mishra said all religions speak of peace and non-violence and “hegemony of one religion has never been part of our culture”. He said ‘Sarva Dharma Sambhav (All religions are Equal)’ has been the ethos of India.

“If our blood is not different, how can there be any difference between religions, Gods...It is time to think

about the oneness of Gods. All religions have one goal. Today, I don’t know for what reasons or interests, attempts are being made to create a divide. Today we want that the syncretic tradition of Akbar’s “Din-i-Ilahi” must be implemented again,” Justice Mishra said.

Singh also said peaceful co-existence and ‘ahimsa’ (non-violence) have been the ethos of India. “We are the most tolerant people on earth. We never discriminated against religions. We respect all gods, that is why we have a pantheon of gods. We don’t believe in conversions,” he said.

The NHRC chief said Indian culture believes in assimilating all the influences it was exposed to, a character trait, and that should be regarded as India’s strength, not weakness.



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At Rights Meet, NHRC Chief Says No Religion Has Hegemony In India

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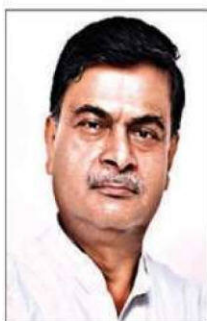
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# Hegemony of one religion never been part of our culture

NEW DELHI, June 30 (PTI)

NHRC chief justice (retd) Arun Kumar Mishra on Thursday said 'Sarva Dharma Sambhav' or all religions are the same has been the ethos of India, and that the hegemony of one religion "has never been part of our culture, it never was and will never be".

In his address at the opening of a conference here on 'Human Rights in Indian

Culture and Philosophy', he also said forcible religious conversion was never accepted by India's civilisation and it is "against humanity".

Extolling the virtues of Indian culture, he said, all religions speak of peace and non-violence. "Peaceful co-existence is our culture, our dharma".

"If our blood is not different, how can there be any difference between religions, Gods," he said. "It is time to think about

the oneness of Gods, all religions have one goal. Today, don't know for what reasons or interests, attempts are being made to create a divide. There is a need to implement again the syncretic tradition of 'Din-i-Ilahi'," he said. Earlier in the day, the retired Supreme Court judge addressed a technical session as part of the conference, where he said 'ahimsa' (non-violence) via Buddhism is a "gift from India" to the wider world.

His comments come against a backdrop of brutal killing of a tailor in Udaipur by a

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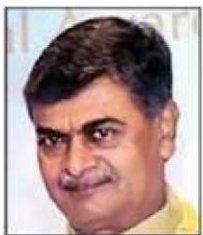


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# Need UAPA for terrorists, says minister

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## **Hegemony of one religion never been part of our culture: NHRC chief**

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### **Co-existence**

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# एक धर्म का आधिपत्य कभी हमारी संस्कृति का हिस्सा नहीं रहा : मिश्र

नई दिल्ली, प्रेटर : राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (एनएचआरसी) के अध्यक्ष जस्टिस (सेवानिवृत्त) अरुण कुमार मिश्र ने गुरुवार को कहा कि 'सर्व धर्म समभाव' या सभी धर्म समान हैं, भारत का लोकाचार रहा है और एक धर्म का आधिपत्य कभी हमारी संस्कृति का हिस्सा नहीं रहा। यह न कभी था और न ही कभी होगा।

यहां 'भारतीय संस्कृति और दर्शन में मानवाधिकार' विषय पर एक सम्मेलन के उद्घाटन के मौके पर अपने संबोधन में उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि जबरन धर्म परिवर्तन को भारत की सभ्यता ने कभी स्वीकार नहीं किया और यह मानवता के खिलाफ है।

भारतीय संस्कृति की विशेषताओं की प्रशंसा करते हुए उन्होंने कहा, सभी धर्म शांति और अहिंसा की बात करते हैं। शांतिपूर्ण सह-अस्तित्व हमारी संस्कृति, हमारा धर्म है। अगर हमारा खून अलग नहीं है, तो धर्मों, देवताओं में कोई अंतर कैसे हो सकता है। उन्होंने कहा कि आज भगवान के एकत्व के बारे में सोचने का समय है।

अधिकार' शांतिपूर्ण सह-अस्तित्व है, किसी को किसी की हत्या का हक नहीं : एनएचआरसी प्रमुख



अरुण कुमार मिश्र।

फाइल

सभी धर्मों का एक लक्ष्य है। आज, न जाने किन कारणों या हितों के लिए, विभाजन पैदा करने के प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं। इससे पहले दिन में मिश्र ने 'भारतीय संस्कृति और दर्शन में मानवाधिकार' पर सम्मेलन के तकनीकी सत्र में कहा कि बौद्ध धर्म के माध्यम से 'अहिंसा' दुनिया के लिए भारत की ओर से एक उपहार है।

'अहिंसा' और अन्य मानवीय गुणों की चर्चा करने वाले भारत के प्राचीन

ज्ञान की प्रशंसा करते हुए उन्होंने कहा कि 'अधिकार' का अर्थ अनिवार्य रूप से शांतिपूर्ण सह-अस्तित्व है। किसी को भी इसका कोई अधिकार नहीं है कि वह किसी की हत्या कर दे या अपनी भूख मिटाने के लिए किसी और की रोटी छीन ले।

उनकी टिप्पणी उदयपुर में दो हमलावरों द्वारा एक हिंदू टेलर की नृशंस हत्या की पृष्ठभूमि में आई है, जिन्होंने आनलाइन वीडियो पोस्ट कर दावा किया था कि वे इस्लाम के अपमान का बदला ले रहे थे।

दो दिवसीय इस कार्यक्रम की मेजबानी एनएचआरसी द्वारा इंदिरा गांधी राष्ट्रीय कला केंद्र (आइजीएनसीए) के सहयोग से की जा रही है। मिश्र ने कहा कि हमारे शास्त्रों, वेदों, पुराणों, महाभारत और हमारे महापुरुषों की शिक्षा में इस्तेमाल किए गए शब्दों में अहिंसा की बात की गई है। महात्मा गांधी, राजा राममोहन राय, स्वामी विवेकानंद, रामकृष्ण परमहंस, दयानंद सरस्वती का हवाला देते हुए उन्होंने कहा कि इस संदर्भ में हमें अकबर को भी याद करना होगा।



# CM meets Udaipur victim's kin amid protests

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI, JUNE 30

Hours after Hindu organisations in Udaipur staged a protest march against the grisly June 28 murder of tailor Kanhaiya Lal, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Thursday met the victim's family and handed over a cheque of Rs 51 lakh as compensation, assuring speedy justice in the matter.

After deceased's wife Yashoda sought death penalty for accused Riaz Akhtari and Mohammad Ghous, Gehlot said the severest punishment should be meted out to the killers. The CM sought a time-bound NIA probe.

"The NIA should complete the probe in a time-bound manner and file a chargesheet in a month," said the CM.

Gehlot's visit to Udaipur's



## NO ONE HAS RIGHT TO KILL, SAYS NHRC CHIEF

- Extolling India's ancient wisdom of non-violence, NHRC chief Justice Arun Kumar Mishra (retd) said no one had right to kill anyone
- His comments came in the backdrop of brutal killing of a tailor in Udaipur by two men
- "In our scriptures, Vedas, Puranas, Mahabharata, teachings of our great persons... Ahimsa was talked of," Justice Mishra said

<< Locals protest the killing of Kanhaiya Lal in Udaipur. REUTERS

Dhanmandi, the site of the brutal killing, was preceded by a massive protest march by Hindu organisations.

The march went off peacefully barring a minor stone-throwing incident, which the riot police contained.

Gehlot also issued an

appeal to the people of the state to "defeat forces that wish to harm communal harmony in Rajasthan".

Meanwhile, the BJP today again blamed Congress' "appeasement politics" for the murder, with state unit chief Satish Poonia saying, "The

fact that two men executed this horrible crime unfazed by the fear of law speaks volumes about where this state is headed under the Congress rule."

Congress spokesperson Alka Lamba blamed it on the "atmosphere of communal disharmony in the country".

ANI News/ Latestly/ ThePrint

## **Human rights is in DNA of Indians, says RK Singh**

<https://www.aninews.in/news/national/general-news/human-rights-is-in-dna-of-indians-says-rk-singh20220630222441>

<https://www.latestly.com/agency-news/india-news-human-rights-is-in-dna-of-indians-says-rk-singh-3893362.html>

<https://theprint.in/india/human-rights-is-in-dna-of-indians-says-rk-singh/1019455/>

Union Minister for Power R K Singh on Thursday said that respect for human rights is in the DNA of Indians. While inaugurating NHRC-IGNCA Conference, he said, "respect for human rights is in the DNA of Indians." He said that respecting the rights of women has been a very old tradition of Indian society much before the West realized these in the 60s. "We come from a culture where a common man can question the king," he added. He said that it is our country that has expanded the concept of human rights by ensuring houses, piped water connection, electricity, gas connection for all; health insurance cover of Rs. 5 lakh to every family below the poverty line and the right to food that ensured 80 crore people got free food. Earlier, addressing the gathering, the NHRC, Chairperson, Justice Arun Mishra said that India has given a new philosophy to the world. He said that Dharma has been recognized as a way of life in India and not as a narrow understanding of religion. Therefore, conduct, as a set principle of life, has become a strong pillar for respecting human rights.

He said that the concept of the global village being talked about now has been a very ancient philosophy as reflected in the ethos of 'Vasudhaiv Kutumbakam'. Referring to several scriptures of different religious faiths, he said that in Indian culture, there has never been a monopoly of any religious faith or ideology, because there has been acceptance of all beliefs, and that is why the concept of religious conversion never met the approval, as its need was never felt. While Justice Arun Mishra said, "when there is no difference in human beings, why should they be differentiated in the name of religion." Singh was addressing, as the Chief Guest, the inaugural session of the two days 'National Conference on Human Rights in Indian Culture and Philosophy', organized jointly by the National Human Rights Commission, NHRC, India and Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts, IGNCA in New Delhi today. Earlier, during the day, in the two thematic sessions, leading into the culmination of this inaugural session, chaired by the NHRC Chairperson, Justice Arun Mishra and Member, Justice M.M. Kumar, several thought-provoking interventions were made by the leading academicians on the various facets of ancient Indian culture and philosophy embedded in the values for human rights as these are being understood and defined today. The two-day conference will conclude on July 1, 2022. (ANI)



# Rehab lapses in N'rangpur bridge collapse

CS put on notice  
by NHRC

**RAJESH BEHERA**

■ BHUBANESWAR

**T**he National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued a show-cause notice to the Odisha Chief Secretary to submit a report within six weeks on compensation to kin of a deceased and 11 injured persons in a flyover collapse case in Nabarangpur district.

An under construction bridge built up under Biju Setu Yojana had collapsed on January 10, 2021 in Nabarangpur district in which one labourer had died and 11 others sustained critical injuries. Mahendra Mali succumbed to injuries while undergoing treatment at the hospital.

Complainant Akhand alleged that due to sub standard work and lack of safety measures, such an unfortunate incident had occurred.

Later, the commission called for a report in the matter within four weeks from the district Magistrate, Nabarangpur. The District Magistrate had submitted a report before the commission on 1.10.2021 where in it was inter alia stated that consequent upon the collapse of the bridge under construction, the Assistant Engineer, the Assistant Executive Engineer and the Executive Engineer of Rural

Works Division, Nabarangpur -II, Umerkote, were suspended and the contract for the work had been rescinded by the Superintending Engineer, south-

ern circle, Rural Works, Sunabeda vide letter dated 7.5.2021.

It had been also informed to the commission that the wife of the deceased had been provided with Rs 1,36,034 and steps for rehabilitation of the family.

However, the commission revealed that the compensation provided to the wife of the deceased was meagre and no compensation had been paid to the injured. As a result, the NHRC issued notice to show cause within six weeks to the Chief Secretary as to why the commission should not recommend compensation for an amount of Rs 5 lakh to be paid to the next of kin of the deceased and Rs 1 lakh to be paid to the injured persons.

# Need UAPA for terrorists, those who behead people: Minister

## At Rights Meet, NHRC Chief Says No Religion Has Hegemony In India

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**New Delhi:** Union minister RK Singh on Thursday said special laws like the Crime Control Act and Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) are not only necessary to rein in terrorists and “those who behead people”, but also to protect the rights and lives of others.

Speaking at the first Convention on Human Rights in Indian Culture and Philosophy here, Singh said, “You have to have laws like UAPA, so we can act against terrorists and those who behead other people. This is to protect the rights of others and make sure that people who don’t listen to the diktats of terrorists are not wiped out.”

The former Union home secretary said, “The infringement on due process of few

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Singh’s reference to UAPA came in the backdrop of the two youths, who beheaded a tailor in Udaipur over a social media post, being booked under the anti-terror law. He said protection of human rights is part of every Indian’s DNA

and laws UAPA have to kick in when legal systems to identify people who violate the rights of others fail and supportive mechanisms are needed.

NHRC Chairman Justice Arun Kumar Mishra said all religions speak of peace and non-violence and “hegemony of one religion has never been part of our culture”. He said ‘Sarva Dharma Sambhav (All religions are Equal)’ has been the ethos of India.

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ference between religions, Gods...It is time to think about the oneness of Gods. All religions have one goal. Today, I don’t know for what reasons or interests, attempts are being made to create a divide. Today we want that the syncretic tradition of Akbar’s ‘Din-i-Ilahi’ must be implemented again,” Justice Mishra said.

Singh also said peaceful co-existence and ‘ahimsa’ (non-violence) have been the ethos of India. “We are the most tolerant people on earth. We never discriminated against religions. We respect all gods, that is why we have a pantheon of gods. We don’t believe in conversions,” he said.

Mishra said Indian culture believes in assimilating all the influences it was exposed to, a character trait, and that should be regarded as India’s strength, not weakness.



# UAPA necessary to act against terrorists: Minister

R.K. Singh speaks at NHRC meet

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Union Minister R.K. Singh on Thursday said it was necessary to have certain laws like the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) so that action could be taken against terrorists and those who “behead other people”, while addressing the National Human Rights Commission’s conference on human rights in the Indian context.

Mr. Singh cited attacks by Naxals on security forces and terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir as examples.

Mr. Singh said it was “necessary to infringe on due process of a few citizens in order to protect the larger humanity”.

Referring to the incident where a tailor was beheaded by two men in Udaipur earlier this week, Mr. Singh said, “It is necessary to have special laws like the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act so that we can act against terrorists, so that we can act against the type of people who behead other people. That is something which has to be said and has to be accepted.”

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## Hegemony of one religion never been part of our culture: NHRC

**NEW DELHI:** NHRC chairperson Justice (retd) Arun Kumar Mishra Thursday said 'Sarva Dharma Sambhav' or all religions are the same has been the ethos of India, and that the hegemony of one religion "has never been part of our

culture, it never was and will never be". In his address at the opening of a conference here on 'Human Rights in Indian Culture and Philosophy', he said there is a need to implement again the syncretic tradition of Akbar's 'Din-i-Ilahi'.

## ‘संस्कृति का हिस्सा नहीं एक धर्म का आधिपत्य’

नई दिल्ली, प्रेटर : राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग के अध्यक्ष जस्टिस (सेवानिवृत्त) अरुण कुमार मिश्र ने गुरुवार को कहा कि ‘सर्व धर्म समभाव’ या सभी धर्म समान हैं, भारत का लोकाचार रहा है और एक धर्म का आधिपत्य कभी हमारी संस्कृति का हिस्सा नहीं रहा। यह न कभी था और न ही कभी होगा। यहां एक सम्मेलन के उद्घाटन के मौके पर संबोधन में उन्होंने ये बातें कहीं।



**एक धर्म का आधिपत्य हमारी संस्कृति का हिस्सा नहीं रहा : मिश्र**

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## UDAIPUR MURDER

# NHRC chief bats for religious harmony

*Minority panel condemns the crime*

## OUR CORRESPONDENT

**NEW DELHI:** NHRC chief justice (Retd) Arun Kumar Mishra on Thursday said 'Sarva Dharma Sambhav' or all religions are the same has been the ethos of India, and that the hegemony of one religion "has never been part of our culture, it never was and will never be".

In his address at the opening of a conference here on 'Human Rights in Indian Culture and Philosophy', he also said forcible religious conversion was never accepted by India's civilisation and it is "against humanity".

Extolling the virtues of



Arun Kumar Mishra

Indian culture, he said, all religions speak of peace and non-violence. "Peaceful co-existence is our culture, our dharma".

"If our blood is not different, how can there be any difference between religions, Gods," he said. **Continued on P4**

## NHRC chief

"It is time to think about the oneness of Gods, all religions have one goal. Today, don't know for what reasons or interests, attempts are being made to create a divide. There is a need to implement again the syncretic tradition of (Akbar's) 'Din-i-Ilahi,'" he said.

Earlier in the day, the retired Supreme Court judge addressed a technical session as part of the conference, where he said 'ahimsa' (non-violence) via Buddhism is a "gift from India" to the wider world.

His comments come in the backdrop of brutal killing of a tailor in Udaipur by two men who had posted videos online that claimed they were avenging an insult to Islam.

The two-day event is being hosted by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in collaboration with Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA). The NHRC chief cited Mahatma Gandhi, Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Swami Vivekananda, Ramakrishna Paramahansa, Dayanand Saraswati, and added "we have to remember Akbar also" in this context.

"Gandhi, Patel lived with 'ahimsa', it is taught in Jainism and Buddhism too. Forty-seven countries have adopted Buddhism, it is a gift from India — 'ahimsa'. What Ashoka borrowed from Buddhism

— 'ahimsa'. What we have given to the entire world is being talked about today... Indian culture, we have not forgotten, it is in our blood," he said.

He then spoke of 'adhikar' (rights) and 'day-itva' (duties) as spoken in the Indian texts.

"Adhikar" is peaceful co-existence. No one has any right to kill anybody or snatch someone else's bread to satiate their hunger or quench their thirst," the NHRC chief said.

He also talked about the land being a venerated 'Bhoomi Devi' (Mother Earth) and River Ganga being revered as a 'Ganga Maa' and lamented that society was "forgetting its obligations" there too.

The NHRC chief underlined that the fertile nature of land was "being destroyed" through use of chemicals and fertilizers as they benefit just a few crops and render it "unproductive" later.

India is an agriculture-dominated country and the land gives bread to millions, he said.



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## NHRC EVENT

# UAPA Necessary to Protect Rights, says RK Singh

Our Political Bureau

**New Delhi:** Power and New & Renewable Energy Minister RK Singh on Thursday said tough laws such as Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) are needed for protecting the rights of people and in dealing with those who indulge in crimes against "fellow human beings".

While addressing the inaugural session of the two-day 'National Conference on Human Rights in Indian Culture and Philosophy', Singh said respecting the rights of women has been an old tradition of the Indian society much before the West practiced it in the 1960s. "It is our country that has expanded the concept of human rights by ensuring houses, piped water connection, electricity, gas connection for all; health insurance cover of Rs 5 lakh to every family below the poverty line and right to food that ensured 80 crore people got free food. This is the concept of our human rights and let no one preach to us," he said.



**'Hegemony of one religion has never been part of our culture. It never was and will never be'**

Speaking at the event, NHRC chief justice (retd) Arun Kumar Mishra said, "It is not understood why there is an effort to divide different religions when there is no difference in human beings and why should they be differentiated in the name of religion. He emphasised that there is a need to again implement the concept of Mughal emperor Akbar's Deen-e-Illahi. He said, "Sarva Dharma Sambhav or all religions are the same has been the ethos of India and hegemony of one religion has never been part of our culture. It never was and will never be." Extolling the virtues of Indian culture, he said all religions speak of peace and non-violence. "Peaceful co-existence is our culture, our dharma. If our blood is not different, how can there be any difference between religions and gods? It is time to think about the oneness of god. All religions have one goal," he said.

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## UDAIPUR MURDER

# Hegemony of one religion never been part of our culture: NHRC chief

*Minority panel condemns the crime*

## OUR CORRESPONDENT

**NEW DELHI:** NHRC chief justice (Retd) Arun Kumar Mishra on Thursday said 'Sarva Dharma Sambhav' or all religions are the same has been the ethos of India, and that the hegemony of one religion "has never been part of our culture, it never was and will never be".

In his address at the opening of a conference here on 'Human Rights in Indian Culture and Philosophy', he also said forcible religious conversion was never accepted by India's civilisation and it is "against humanity".

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Arun Kumar Mishra

violence. "Peaceful co-existence is our culture, our dharma".

"If our blood is not different, how can there be any difference between religions, Gods," he said. "It is time to think about the oneness of Gods, all religions have one goal. Today, don't know for what reasons or interests, attempts are being made to create a divide. There is

a need to implement again the syncretic tradition of (Akbar's) 'Din-i-Ilahi'," he said.

Earlier in the day, the retired Supreme Court judge addressed a technical session as part of the conference, where he said 'ahimsa' (non-violence) via Buddhism is a "gift from India" to the wider world.

His comments come in the backdrop of brutal killing of a tailor in Udaipur by two men who had posted videos online that claimed they were avenging an insult to Islam.

The two-day event is being hosted by the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) in collaboration with Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA). **Continued on P4**

## NHRC chief

The NHRC chief cited Said Gandhi, Raja Ram Mohan Roy, Swami Vivekananda, Ramakrishna Paramahansa, Dayanand Saraswati, and added "we have to remember Akbar also" in this context.

"Gandhi, Patel lived with 'ahimsa', it is taught in Jainism and Buddhism too. Forty-seven countries have adopted Buddhism, it is a gift from India — 'ahimsa'. What Ashoka borrowed from Buddhism — 'ahimsa'.. What we have given to the entire world is being talked about today... Indian culture, we have not forgotten, it is in our blood," he said.

He then spoke of 'adhyak' (rights) and 'dayitva' (duties) as spoken in the Indian texts.

"'Adhyak' is peaceful co-existence. No one has any right to kill anybody or snatch someone else's bread to satiate their hunger or quench their thirst," the NHRC chief said.

He also talked about the land being a venerated 'Bhoomi Devi' (Mother Earth) and River Ganga being revered as a 'Ganga Maa' and lamented that society was "forgetting its obligations" there too.

The NHRC chief underlined that the fertile nature of land was "being destroyed" through use of chemicals and fertilizers as they benefit just a few crops and render it "unproductive" later.

India is an agriculture-dominated country and the land gives bread to millions, he said.

# Need UAPA for terrorists, those who behead people: Minister

## At Rights Meet, NHRC Chief Says No Religion Has Hegemony In India

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** Union minister RK Singh on Thursday said special laws like the Crime Control Act and Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) are not only necessary to rein in terrorists and "those who behead people", but also to protect the rights and lives of others.

Speaking at the first Convention on Human Rights in Indian Culture and Philosophy here, Singh said, "You have to have laws like UAPA, so we can act against terrorists and those who behead other people. This is to protect the rights of others and make sure that people who don't listen to the diktats of terrorists are not wiped out."

The former Union home secretary said, "The infringement on due process of few citizens is to protect larger



**“ You have to have laws like UAPA... This is to protect the rights of others and make sure that people who don't listen to diktats of terrorists are not wiped out**

**RK SINGH**

Power and renewable energy minister

humanity... It is to make sure that people don't get shot (like in Jammu & Kashmir) because they belong to a particular religion. That is the fact of life which has to be imbibed and accepted."

Singh's reference to UAPA came in the backdrop of the two youths, who beheaded a tailor in Udaipur over a social media post, being booked under the anti-terror law. He said protection of human rights is part of every Indian's DNA and laws UAPA have to kick in when legal

systems to identify people who violate the rights of others fail and supportive mechanisms are needed.

NHRC Chairman Justice Arun Kumar Mishra said all religions speak of peace and non-violence and "hegemony of one religion has never been part of our culture". He said 'Sarva Dharma Sambhav (All religions are Equal)' has been the ethos of India.

"If our blood is not different, how can there be any difference between religions, Gods... It is time to think

about the oneness of Gods. All religions have one goal. Today, I don't know for what reasons or interests, attempts are being made to create a divide. Today we want that the syncretic tradition of Akbar's 'Din-i-Ilahi' must be implemented again," Justice Mishra said.

Singh also said peaceful co-existence and 'ahimsa' (non-violence) have been the ethos of India. "We are the most tolerant people on earth. We never discriminated against religions. We respect all gods, that is why we have a pantheon of gods. We don't believe in conversions," he said.

Mishra said Indian culture believes in assimilating all the influences it was exposed to, a character trait, and that should be regarded as India's strength, not weakness.



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## भारी वजन से बच्चों में कमर दर्द और सर्वाङ्कल की समस्या हो रही बस्ते का बोझ... स्कूलों में जाकर बच्चों के बस्तों का वजन तौलेंगे पैरालीगल वॉलेंटियर

सिटी रिपोर्टर | भोपाल

पैरालीगल और स्कूलों के वॉलेंटियर अब स्कूलों में जाकर बच्चों के बस्ते को तौलेंगे। बस्ते के बोझ से उन्हें हो रही शारीरिक एवं मानसिक समस्या का अध्ययन करके अपनी एक रिपोर्ट जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण को देंगे। दरअसल, सुप्रीम कोर्ट के निर्देशों के बाद भी स्कूली बच्चों के बस्ते का बोझ कम नहीं होने पर प्राधिकरण ने ये निर्णय लिया है। प्राधिकरण के सचिव एसपीएस बुंदेला ने बताया कि प्राधिकरण पैरालीगल वॉलेंटियर (पीएलवी) के जरिए मॉनिटरिंग भी करेगा। सुप्रीम कोर्ट के दिशा-निर्देशों पर अमल नहीं करने वाले स्कूलों के खिलाफ कार्रवाई भी करेगा। इस संबंध में जिला शिक्षा अधिकारी को भी निर्देश दिए गए

हैं। हड्डी रोग विशेषज्ञ डॉ. संजीव गौर ने बताया कि भारी बस्तों की वजह से बच्चों में कमर दर्द और सर्वाङ्कल की समस्या हो रही है। बच्चा झुककर चलने लगता है। बच्चे के लिए अपने वजन से 10% से ज्यादा का बोझ नुकसानदेह है। स्कूल से आने-जाने के दौरान बच्चे की सांस फूले तो सतर्क होने की जरूरत है। उसके लंग्स पर असर हो सकता है।

बाल आयोग के सदस्य ब्रजेश चौहान का कहना है कि उन्होंने निरीक्षण के दौरान कई क्लास के बच्चों के बस्तों को चैक किया तो वह उन्हें काफी भारी मिले। बस्ते का आदर्श वजन नर्सरी से केजी टू तक अधिकतम 300 ग्राम, पहली से 5वीं तक अधिकतम 2 किलो, छठवीं से आठवीं तक अधिकतम 4 किलो, नवीं से 12वीं तक अधिकतम पांच किलो होना चाहिए।