

DEATH BY BLACK MAGIC: WHY HUMAN SACRIFICE PERSISTS

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Sneha Bhura & Mohua Das | TNN

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The Hathras case is not an isolated incident, but part of a larger, troubling pattern across India. According to the National Crime Records Bureau, six cases of human or child sacrifice were reported in both 2022 and 2021. Data from 2014-2021 shows a total of 103 cases of ritualistic human sacrifice. Witchcraft-related violence continues too. In 2022, 85 cases were reported, with Chhattisgarh leading with 25, followed by Madhya Pradesh and Odisha.

Photos: Piyal Bhattacharjee



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The horrific attack on Kritarth wasn't the first attempt at human sacrifice at the Hathras school. Weeks before his death, Gavaskar from Bahardoi village received a late night call from the school where his two children, both in class one, lived and studied. "They said my elder son had a fever and told me to come take him," recalls the daily wage labourer and farmer who had paid Rs 50,000 for each child's tuition and boarding.

When he arrived, he was horrified. "My son was covered in urine and faeces. His face was red, eyes bloodshot, and there were wounds around his neck," he says. His son, who lived to narrate the episode, later told Gavaskar it was the school director and teachers who attacked him. "They threatened us with death if we spoke out," says Gavaskar, who has now moved his children to another nearby school.

Other parents in the area recount similar episodes. Lalita, mother of nine-year-old Prince, says her son too, was attacked in the hostel. "He told me someone threw a rope around his neck when he was going for lunch

and tried to drag him back into the room. He broke free when the rope snapped, and his attacker fled. Later, a senior hostelite threatened to hang him from the fan if he spoke about it."

At Kritarth's house in Tursen village, the community demands justice. "The last time Kritarth called, he asked for Rs 200 and said he was fine. That night, he was strangled. Then we got the call — 'come get the boy, he's unwell...' He had soiled himself and faint streaks of dried up tears marked his face," says his mother Kamlesh, her voice trembling as she recounted the horror.

LOCAL LAWS NOT ENOUGH

Maharashtra was the first state to enact a law against black magic and human sacrifices with its 2013 Act that came into effect just days after rationalist Narendra Dabholkar, who had fought hard for the legislation, was shot dead. This July, the state's police chief also ordered the creation of 'anti-superstition cells'. States like Bihar and Jharkhand have laws against witch-hunting. This year, both Haryana and Gujarat passed the Prevention and Eradication of Human Sacrifice and Other Inhuman, Evil, Aghori Practices and Black Magic Bill, 2024. Offenders face up to seven years in prison, along with hefty fines.

Activists say centralised legislation is necessary. "Only some states have robust laws which prevent people from openly advertising illegal superstitious practices. A central law would make crackdowns easier," says Milind Deshmukh, state executive member of Dabholkar's Maharashtra Andhashradha Nirmulan Samiti.

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2013, they have not vanished entirely. "Over the past decade, there have been eight to ten documented cases," says Deshmukh.

In July, lawyer and activist Radhakanta Tripathy filed a petition with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) highlighting cases from Maharashtra's Konkan region. One woman was forced to consume human bone powder, and another was made to bathe naked in public by her husband and in-laws as part of rituals to conceive. Over the last 15 years, he has taken 20 cases from states like Odisha, Jharkhand and Assam to the NHRC.

Legislation alone may not be enough, say activists. Deshmukh says, "Even after 11 years of the Maharashtra law, there are hidden pockets where these practices continue unabated." Tripathy adds, "Just as laws against murder haven't stopped murder, combating superstition and witchcraft requires not just a central law, but a broader effort that addresses education, healthcare and social awareness."

DISPELLING BLIND FAITH

So, why is this still happening in a country otherwise making strides? According to Tripathy, the reasons are tied to poverty, family disputes, blind faith and a lack of education. "In remote, tribal-dominated areas like Odisha, people don't have adequate healthcare facilities. When something as basic as diarrhoea breaks out, they seek out witch doctors." It's not an issue that only impacts the rural poor, Tripathy argues. "In urban settings, even sophisticated and educated people buy into sorcery and witchcraft," he says. "For them, it's just a hidden obsession with power and wealth they're willing to chase at any cost." Deshmukh also calls out TV shows that keep pushing superstition and blind beliefs despite repeated complaints and advisories.

Some are trying their hand at debunking in their own way. After Krishan Lal's wife sought help from tantrik for fits she was experiencing, his skepticism led him to seek out rationalist groups. Today, the 55-year-old school dropout is a water pump operator at a transformer factory in Haryana's Kaithal town where, surprisingly, he also runs a small clinic for people who believe they are possessed or victims of black magic. "After being battered by self-styled god-men, they find their way here," he says. "When I started this work in 2001, my cases were mostly those who suffered fits — their houses would catch fire, they'd report a hail of bricks from the sky, tear their clothes — because of undiagnosed psychological disorders or years of abuse. But for the last decade, cases of religious nature are on the rise where innocent people are looted by babas who claim to resolve problems," says Lal.

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नवजात को कुत्ते द्वारा नोचे जाने में डीएम से मांगी रिपोर्ट

मुजफ्फरपुर, मुख्य संवाददाता। एसकेएमसीएच के मुख्य द्वार के पास कचरे के ढेर पर नवजात के शव को कुत्ते द्वारा नोचकर खाने के मामले में राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग ने डीएम को नोटिस करते हुए समन भेजा है। इसमें डीएम को 25 नवंबर को मामले में एक्शन टेकेन रिपोर्ट के साथ स्वयं उपस्थिति होने को कहा है। अगर डीएम 18 नवंबर तक आयोग को कार्रवाई रिपोर्ट भेज देते हैं तो उन्हें स्वयं आने की जरूरत नहीं होगी।

आयोग की ओर से मिले इस पत्र के बाद डीएम सुब्रत कुमार सेन ने एडीएम रेवेन्यू के नेतृत्व में तीन सदस्यीय कमेटी का गठन किया है।

- राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग की कार्रवाई
- रिपोर्ट नहीं देने पर डीएम को होना होगा हाजिर

इसमें एडीएम संग एसकेएमसीएच अधीक्षक व एसडीसी डॉ. अर्चना कुमारी शामिल हैं। डीएम ने टीम को एक हफ्ते में जांच प्रतिवेदन मांगा है, ताकि आयोग को रिपोर्ट भेजी जा सके। इस मामले में अधिवक्ता एसके झा ने वाद दायर किया था। इसमें बताया कि 15 मई 2024 को एसकेएमसीएच के मुख्य गेट के पास नवजात का शव फेंका हुआ मिला था। उसे कुत्ते द्वारा घंटों तक नोचकर खाया जा रहा था।

The Samiksha

NHRC Conference on the Rights of Older Persons concludes

<https://thesamikhsya.com/business/nhrc-conference-on-the-rights-of-older-persons-concludes>

October 19, 2024 - by The Samikhsya



NHRC Conference: Marking its 31st Foundation Day organized a day-long national conference on the 'Rights of Older Persons' at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Delivering the keynote address, Acting Chairperson, Smt Vijaya Bharathi Sayani said elders are the architects of our nation's history, the keepers of our cultural heritage, and the pillars of our families.

It is our moral and ethical duty to ensure that they are treated with respect, compassion, and dignity in their twilight years. A growing ageing population presents both opportunities and challenges for the government and society. The Commission maintains a strong resolve to protect the rights of the elderly has taken several steps including forming a core group and issuing guidelines in this regard.

She said that the challenges faced by older persons are multi-fold. From financial insecurity and healthcare disparities to social isolation and discrimination, they confront a myriad of obstacles that can significantly impact their quality of life. These are not merely hypothetical scenarios; they are realities faced by countless older persons in our society. It is a stark reminder that the protection of the rights of our elders is not just a legal or policy matter; it is a deeply personal and societal responsibility.

Smt Vijaya Bharathi Sayani said that there are laws and several government schemes to address the needs of older adults. However, their effective implementation remains a key challenge. Some of their needs that require immediate attention include ensuring access to affordable and quality healthcare services, recognizing and addressing their mental health needs, adequate pensions and social security benefits, affordable and quality housing, safety measures, and social support services, financial literacy for informed financial decisions and participation in the economy.

She said that strengthening and enforcing anti-discrimination laws to protect older persons from age-based discrimination in all aspects of life, including employment, housing, and healthcare, is essential. Implementing effective measures to prevent and address elder abuse, both physical and emotional, and ensuring that perpetrators are held accountable is also crucial.

Before this, NHRC Secretary General, Shri Bharat Lal said that historically, India has had a deep-rooted tradition of respecting and venerating elders. They have always been seen as repositories of wisdom. However, in contemporary India, the combination of rapid urbanization, globalization, and the nuclear family structure has brought to the fore new challenges faced by the elderly. It is imperative that we examine the structural, social, legal, and infrastructural frameworks in place to ensure their well-being, dignity, and active participation in society.

He said that we must harness the potential of our aging population and address the challenges through comprehensive and holistic approach. He stressed on the need to create an enabling environment to support the elderly and to make use of their experiences.

Giving an overview of the national conference, Joint Secretary, Shri Devendra Kumar Nim said that the Commission has been making concerted efforts to address various issues concerning the rights of older persons. The three technical sessions of the conference including, Addressing the issue of 'Ageing of the Aged,' 'Analyzing the gendered face of ageing and how to tackle the same' and 'Evaluating the healthcare scenario,' are expected to ignite various thoughts on the gaps between the policies, their implementation, new challenges and the way forward.

Chairing the first thematic session on the issues of 'Ageing of the Aged,' Union Minister, Shri Amit Yadav said that the government is committed to the welfare of the older persons and may affect certain required changes in the existing laws to this effect. The other speakers included Smt Chhaya Sharma, Special Commissioner of Police, Training and SPUWAC, Dr O.P Sharma, Geriatrics Care Specialist, Apollo Hospital, Dr Sudha Goel, Senior Consultant, NITI Aayog-Health and Family Welfare Vertical, Dr T.V. Shekhar, Prof. Department of Family & Generations, IIPS, Dr. Mala Kapur Shankardass, Sociologist and Gerontologist- Gender and Aging, Elder Abuse and Social Policies and Ms Anupama Dutta, Senior Advisor, Help Age India Foundation.

Chairing the second session on the 'Gendered face of Ageing,' Ms Andrea M. Wojnar, Resident Country Representative, UNFPA India said that India introduced National Policy for Older Persons before it was introduced in other countries. However, with time and the new challenges these required to be reviewed with more focus on inter-generational approach.

She said technology is a way forward to ensure to meet the needs of older persons. The other panelists included, Ms Sonam Mishra, Vice President, Sulabh International, Dr Laxmi Gautam, Professor, Institute of Oriental Philosophy, Vrindavan and Founder, Kanak Dhara Foundation, Vrindavan, Prof. Aasha Kapur Mehta, Chairperson, Centre for Gender Studies Institute of Human Development, Mrs Damayanti V. Tambay, War Widows Association, New Delhi and Ms Abha Chaudhary, Founder, Anugraha.

Dr V. K. Paul, Member, NITI Aayog, chaired the third session on evaluating the 'Healthcare scenario: Impact on the healthy life, productivity and social security,' said. The panelists, among others, included, Dr Sanjay Wadhwa, Professor and Head, Department of Physical Medicine, AIIMS Dr, Prasun Chatterjee, Professor, Department of Geriatric Medicine, AIIMS.

The Commission will further deliberate upon the various suggestions to finalize its recommendations to the government for strengthening the care and welfare mechanism in the country.

Jharkhand State News

NHRC holds conference on the 'Rights of Older Persons'

<https://jharkhandstatenews.com/article/top-stories/8574/nhrc-holds-conference-on-the-rights-of-older-persons/>

19 October 2024

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She said that the challenges faced by older persons are multi-fold. From financial insecurity and healthcare disparities to social isolation and discrimination, they confront a myriad of obstacles that can significantly impact their quality of life. These are not merely hypothetical scenarios; they are realities faced by countless older persons in our society. It is a stark reminder that the protection of the rights of our elders is not just a legal or policy matter; it is a deeply personal and societal responsibility.



Smt Vijaya Bharathi Sayani said that there are laws and several government schemes to address the needs of older adults. However, their effective implementation remains a key challenge. Some of their needs that require immediate attention include ensuring access to affordable and quality healthcare services, recognizing and addressing their mental health needs, adequate pensions and social security benefits, affordable and quality housing, safety measures, and social support services, financial literacy for informed financial decisions and participation in the economy.

She said that strengthening and enforcing anti-discrimination laws to protect older persons from age-based discrimination in all aspects of life, including employment, housing, and healthcare, is essential. Implementing effective measures to prevent and address elder abuse, both physical and emotional, and ensuring that perpetrators are held accountable is also crucial.

Before this, NHRC Secretary General, Shri Bharat Lal said that historically, India has had a deep-rooted tradition of respecting and venerating elders. They have always been seen as repositories of wisdom. However, in contemporary India, the combination of rapid urbanization, globalization, and the nuclear family structure has brought to the fore new challenges faced by the elderly. It is imperative that we examine the structural, social, legal, and infrastructural frameworks in place to ensure their well-being, dignity, and active participation in society.

He said that we must harness the potential of our aging population and address the challenges through comprehensive and holistic approach. He stressed on the need to create an enabling environment to support the elderly and to make use of their experiences.



Giving an overview of the national conference, Joint Secretary, Shri Devendra Kumar Nim said that the Commission has been making concerted efforts to address various issues concerning the rights of older persons. The three technical sessions of the conference including; Addressing the issue of 'Ageing of the Aged,' 'Analyzing the gendered face of ageing and how to tackle the same' and 'Evaluating the healthcare scenario,' are expected to ignite various thoughts on the gaps between the policies, their implementation, new challenges and the way forward.

Chairing the first thematic session on the issues of 'Ageing of the Aged,' Union Minister, Shri Amit Yadav said that the government is committed to the welfare of the older persons and may affect certain required changes in the existing laws to this effect. The other speakers included Smt Chhaya Sharma, Special Commissioner of Police, Training and SPUWAC, Dr O.P Sharma, Geriatrics Care Specialist, Apollo Hospital, Dr Sudha Goel, Senior Consultant, NITI Aayog-Health and Family Welfare Vertical, Dr T.V. Shekhar, Prof. Department of Family & Generations, IIPS, Dr. Mala Kapur Shankardass, Sociologist and Gerontologist- Gender and Aging, Elder Abuse and Social Policies and Ms Anupama Dutta, Senior Advisor, Help Age India Foundation.

Chairing the second session on the 'Gendered face of Ageing,' Ms Andrea M. Wojnar, Resident Country Representative, UNFPA India said that India introduced National Policy for Older Persons before it was introduced in other countries. However, with time and the new challenges these required to be reviewed with more focus on inter-generational approach. She said technology is a way forward to ensure to meet the needs of older persons. The other panelists included, Ms Sonam Mishra, Vice President, Sulabh International, Dr Laxmi Gautam, Professor, Institute of Oriental Philosophy, Vrindavan and Founder, Kanak Dhara Foundation, Vrindavan, Prof. Aasha Kapur Mehta, Chairperson, Centre for Gender Studies Institute of Human Development, Mrs Damayanti V. Tambay, War Widows Association, New Delhi and Ms Abha Chaudhary, Founder, Anugraha.

Dr V. K. Paul, Member, NITI Aayog, chaired the third session on evaluating the 'Healthcare scenario: Impact on the healthy life, productivity and social security,' said. The panelists, among others, included, Dr Sanjay Wadhwa, Professor and Head, Department of Physical Medicine, AIIMS Dr, Prasun Chatterjee, Professor, Department of Geriatric Medicine, AIIMS.

The Commission will further deliberate upon the various suggestions to finalize its recommendations to the government for strengthening the care and welfare mechanism in the country.

Adda247

NHRC Concludes National Conference, Advocates for Older Persons' Rights

<https://currentaffairs.adda247.com/nhrc-concludes-national-conference-advocates-for-older-persons-rights/>

On its 31st Foundation Day, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) organized a day-long national conference on the "Rights of Older Persons" at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. During the keynote address, Acting Chairperson Smt. Vijaya Bharathi Sayani emphasized the invaluable role of elders.

Published On October 19th, 2024

On its 31st Foundation Day, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) organized a day-long national conference on the "Rights of Older Persons" at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. During the keynote address, Acting Chairperson Smt. Vijaya Bharathi Sayani emphasized the invaluable role of elders as the architects of the nation's history, keepers of cultural heritage, and foundational pillars of families.

Conference Overview

NHRC's 31st Foundation Day conference focused on the "Rights of Older Persons."

The event aimed to address the growing challenges faced by the elderly population in India.

Acting Chairperson's Address

Smt. Vijaya Bharathi Sayani described elders as "the architects of our nation's history" and emphasized their importance in families and society.

She called for respect, compassion, and dignity for older persons during their twilight years.

Challenges Faced by Older Persons

Multi-Faceted Issues : Financial insecurity, healthcare disparities, social isolation, and discrimination significantly impact older persons' quality of life.

Legal and Policy Framework : Existing laws and government schemes exist, but their effective implementation remains a challenge.

Immediate Needs Identified

Access to affordable, quality healthcare services.

Addressing mental health needs of older persons.

Adequate pensions and social security benefits.

Safe and affordable housing options.

Financial literacy to empower informed financial decisions.

Anti-Discrimination Measures

Strengthening and enforcing anti-discrimination laws to protect older persons from age-based discrimination in employment, housing, and healthcare.

Implementing measures to prevent and address elder abuse.

Historical Context

NHRC Secretary General Shri Bharat Lal highlighted India's tradition of venerating elders, noting contemporary challenges posed by urbanization and nuclear family structures.

Emphasis on creating a supportive environment to harness the potential of the aging population.

Technical Sessions

The conference featured three technical sessions:

“Ageing of the Aged”

“Analyzing the Gendered Face of Ageing”

“Evaluating the Healthcare Scenario”

Discussions aimed at identifying policy gaps and suggesting the way forward.

Government Commitment

Union Minister Shri Amit Yadav reaffirmed the government's commitment to the welfare of older persons, indicating potential changes to existing laws.

Collaboration with experts and stakeholders to address challenges faced by the elderly.

Gender Perspective

Ms. Andrea M. Wojnar, representing UNFPA India, emphasized the need for a review of the National Policy for Older Persons, focusing on an inter-generational approach.

Technology was identified as a vital tool to meet the needs of older persons.

Healthcare Focus

Dr. V. K. Paul from NITI Aayog discussed the impact of healthcare on the well-being of older persons, emphasizing productivity and social security.

Future Recommendations

NHRC will further consider the various suggestions made during the conference to finalize recommendations for the government to strengthen care and welfare mechanisms for older persons in the country.

Business Standard

Day 1 of SHRM India Annual Conference 2024 Concludes with Insightful Discussions and Landmark Partnership with NSDC

https://www.business-standard.com/content/press-releases-ani/day-1-of-shrm-india-annual-conference-2024-concludes-with-insightful-discussions-and-landmark-partnership-with-nsdc-124101900312_1.html

4 min read Last Updated : Oct 19 2024 | 12:00 PM IST

NewsVair

Gurgaon (Haryana) [India], October 19: The much-anticipated SHRM India Annual Conference (IAC) 2024 successfully concluded day one at the Taj Palace, New Delhi. The event brought together top HR professionals, thought leaders, and innovators to delve into actionable approaches to foster a thriving work environment rooted in mutual respect, transparent communication, and positive collaboration. The conference started with a welcome address by Achal Khanna, CEO SHRM India, APAC and MENA followed by a keynote address by Atul Kumar Tiwari, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India. On day one of the conference, SHRM and NSDC entered into a strategic alliance with the aim of bridging the skill gap for the future workforce.

This year's theme, 'NOW', highlights the urgency of leveraging action to make impactful and relevant changes in the workplace. The sessions explored pressing topics like governance, human rights, and the path to global civility, integrating AI with HI, importance of recognition in building career, strategies for employee wellness, navigating opportunities and challenges in the sector.

Talking about the conference, Achal Khanna, CEO of SHRM India, APAC and MENA reflected on the success of the day, stating, "The workplace of today demands bold, immediate action, and our conference serves as a platform where leaders can share insights, exchange ideas, and inspire change. The sessions today reflected the dynamism and innovation required to thrive in this fast-evolving environment. We are excited to see how these conversations will shape the future of work. It is also our honour to applaud and recognise the contributions by the leaders in the HR industry through our awards. We are also grateful to NSDC for their support and encouragement. We are sure that the alliance will help us boost the future workforce with the required skillsets and tools to build better workplaces."

Many renowned speakers led the conversations, offering actionable insights to equip HR professionals for the dynamic world of work. The day was packed with dynamic sessions, keynotes, and panel discussions, offering strategic insights to equip HR professionals for the dynamic world of work. The robust lineup of speakers from various sectors included Ved Mani Tiwari, Chief Executive Officer, NSDC & Managing Director, NSDC International; D Shivakumar, Chairman MTPL, an Advent PE Company & Conference

Chair - SHRMIAC24; Bharat Lal, Secretary General, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India; Ashok Ramchandran, Director - Human Resources, Aditya Birla Group; Apurva Chamaria, Head of Startups & Venture Capital, India, Google; Gaurav Khatri, Co-founder, Noise amongst others.

Adding to this, Betty Thompson Chair, Chief People Officer, Booz Allen Hamilton and Board Chair SHRM said, "What we see today is an inspiring display of HR leadership committed to driving meaningful change. The discussions at #SHRMIAC24 reflect how pivotal HR's role is in navigating new challenges and ensuring workplaces are adaptive, resilient, and inclusive. The enthusiasm and engagement from our attendees has been truly inspiring."

The conference showcased opportunities to learn from HR visionaries. The stage has been set for day two of the conference where SHRM IAC 2024 will continue with topics including harnessing AI, talent in tech-dominated work environment, corporate leadership strategies, sustainable success and others.

SHRM is a member-driven catalyst for creating better workplaces where people and businesses thrive together. As the trusted authority on all things work, SHRM is the foremost expert, researcher, advocate, and thought leader on issues and innovations impacting today's evolving workplaces. With nearly 340,000 members in 180 countries, SHRM touches the lives of more than 362 million workers and their families globally.

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Orissa Post

Prisoner dies in Jharpada jail, family alleges murder

<https://www.orissapost.com/prisoner-dies-in-jharpada-jail-family-alleges-murder/>

Updated: October 19th, 2024, 09:19 IST

Bhubaneswar: An under-trial prisoner died under mysterious circumstances at the controversy-ridden Jharpada Special Jail here Friday, even as the family of the deceased alleged that he succumbed to custodial torture by prison staff.

An officer at the Laxmisagar police station said Bidyadhara Guru, 48, who was lodged in the jail in connection with a NDPS case October 5, complained of chest pain in the morning and was rushed to the Capital Hospital by jail authorities. He was pronounced 'brought dead' by doctors at the state-run hospital at around 9 am. Bidyadhara, a native of Daspalla in Nayagarh district, worked as an auto-driver in the City. He lived with his family at Behera Sahi under Maitri Vihar police limits. However, dismissing the police claims, Bidyadhara's wife Jhunu Guru said the former's body bore signs of torture and assault. "My husband had suffered deep injuries on the back of his head and left eye, ostensibly after he was severely beaten up. Besides, we were informed about his death almost four hours after his passing away.

None of the police officers have yet clarified the cause of his sudden death since he was not suffering from any serious ailment," Jhunu alleged. Sources at Capital Hospital said the autopsy of the body has been postponed till Saturday due to the controversy surrounding the case. Meanwhile, DG of Prisons and Correctional Services, Arun Kumar Ray told OrissaPOST that Bidyadhara was an alcoholic and drug addict. "Taking the families' concerns into consideration, the entire process of autopsy will be videographed to eliminate any doubt," he said. Ray said if the need arose, a special committee would be formed to probe the case under the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) mandated guidelines. "So far, a case of an unnatural death has been registered at Laxmisagar police station in this regard," he added.

Nevertheless, Friday's development came close on the heels of the murderous attack on an under-trial prisoner by dreaded mobster Munna (and his henchmen), September 1, after the

In a letter to the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Soumyakant Mohanty, the undertrial prisoner, stated that the nexus was ensuring the unabated supply of contraband and provision of luxurious accommodation inside the jail for those who could afford it. He also brought to light a 'rate chart' that has been prepared for the peddling of contrabands and tobacco-related items to inmates in the jail. He claimed that while Bidis were sold for Rs 200 per piece, mobile phones could be accessed at a monthly payment of Rs 5,000. Moreover, luxurious accommodation is being provided at a monthly charge of Rs 50,000 inside the jail, his letter claimed

India Today

Tribal art exhibition in Delhi: Stories from margins to centre

The exhibition, organised by the National Tiger Conservation Authority in collaboration with the Sankala Foundation, the National Human Rights Commission, and the International Big Cat Alliance, drew strong participation from the public.

<https://www.indiatoday.in/amp/cities/delhi/story/delhi-tribal-art-exhibition-from-margins-to-the-centre-jaishankar-2619764-2024-10-19>

New Delhi, UPDATED: Oct 19, 2024 19:13 IST

In Short

Art exhibition 'Silent Conversations' held in Delhi

Exhibition organised by multiple national bodies

Book and magazine on heritage and big cats launched

The second day of the art exhibition "Silent Conversations: From Margins to the Centre" took place in Delhi on Saturday. The exhibition, organised by the National Tiger Conservation Authority in collaboration with the Sankala Foundation, the National Human Rights Commission, and the International Big Cat Alliance, drew strong participation from the public.

Earlier on Thursday, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar inaugurated the exhibition.

During the ceremony, Jaishankar highlighted the importance of environmental conservation in India's development journey.

In his speech, he reiterated the government's commitment to the welfare of Scheduled Tribes, noting that the core of the Antyodaya scheme is to ensure that marginalised communities are not left behind in India's progress. Under the scheme, the government provides highly subsidised food to millions of the poorest families across the country.

Disha, a member associated with the exhibition, explained that its purpose is to bring forward the stories of tribal communities through art. She described it as an effort to present the lives of the marginalised communities through paintings, bringing people from different parts of India to share their experiences.

The event also saw the launch of a book titled "Hidden Treasures: India's Heritage in Tiger Reserves" and a magazine called "Big Cats."

ANI

Second edition of 4-day Tribal Art Exhibition kickstarts in Delhi

<https://www.aninews.in/news/national/general-news/tribal-art-exhibition-recognizing-conversation-ethos-of-tribal-communities-held-in-national-capital-today20241019211331/>

Updated: Oct 19, 2024 21:13 IST

New Delhi [India], October 19 (ANI): The second edition of the four-day Tribal Art Exhibition kickstarted at the India Habitat Centre in Delhi on Saturday. The exhibition organized by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, National Tiger Conservation Authority, Sankala Foundation, International Big Cat Alliance, and National Human Rights Commission aims to recognize the conservation ethos of tribal communities and highlight the symbiotic relationship between these communities and Mother Nature. The event seeks to inspire future generations to appreciate this connection and provides tribal artists an opportunity to engage with visitors. The exhibition will facilitate artists to attend capacity building workshops and attending other art galleries including Lalit Kala Academy, National Gallery of Modern Art, Pradhanmantri Sanghralaya.

Speaking to ANI, Divya Singh, an art consultant, said, "So, the whole idea came around last year, when it's the festive season, Diwali season, where everybody's happy, it's in a jolly mood. So, the Ministry of Environment, Forest Climate Change, National Tiger Conservation Authority, and Sankala Foundation, they thought that why it would be in this festive time. So, Sankala Foundation has been regularly working in this whole idea of sustainability, climate, Indian conservation ethos, promoting our tribal artists, getting people from the ground, and helping them provide a platform." "Last year, we, NTCA and Ministry of Environment, Forest Climate Change, was kind enough to support Sankala Foundation, and they said that, yes, let's collaborate. They helped us to bring around 30-35 tribal artists from different remote parts of our country. They came here for a 4-day art exhibition. It was held same at this place, Atrium India Habitat Centre. Last year, Honorable President was kind enough to come and inaugurate too. The next day, she was so kind enough that she invited all the tribal artists and she met all of them personally and last year itself, she and the entire officials, they decided that, yes, we would want to do a second edition," Divya added. She also highlighted how there was immense cooperation from the various ministers for organising the event, including External Affairs minister S Jaishankar, Environment minister Bhupender Yadav. "That is why this time, it is happening again at India Habitat Centre. S Jaishankar, Union Minister for External Affairs, was kind enough to cooperate. Bhupender Yadav was again kind enough, and we have immense gratitude for him although he was busy, but still he came, he found out time, and he gave us like a video byte of it, like a proper video for the

tribal people. In the evening, Union Minister for Cultural and Tourism, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, took out time from a second session and came for the cultural evening," she said. The exhibition aims to bring in tribal artists from all over the country and giving them a platform in New Delhi. Further speaking on how the exhibition helps artist in promoting their work, she said, "There is no middlemen involved in this art exhibition. The entire money is going directly to the bank account of artist, so much so, that last year when the artist came, they were so overwhelmed that they said, 'we again want to come and that you've celebrated our Diwali."

The art consultants said that over 30 to 35 per cent paintings have already been sold on the second day.

"Artists are very excited that their Diwali has been celebrated and now when to come next year. As there is no middlemen involved, they get an assurance from it that government is standing with the artists," she added.

"The whole idea is to inspire them, motivate them and promote them," she said.

One of artists named Hemlata Bhardwaj from Chhattisgarh's Bastar explained the process of making her art and showcasing the culture of the region.

"I have made a local tribal's art. I have shown its culture. We have group like Dogra Art, metal art and painting. Firstly, we take wood from there and then our workers work on it then. Rest we create paintings and metal art, she said.

"This is the first time that I have come to exhibition. This is a channel to protect tribal culture, animal and the earning through this motivates us somewhere to go forward and to participate in such events," she added.

Leeladhar Atram, who represents Tadoba andhari Tiger Reserve, Maharashtra said, "We have few guides there and they have some photos that they gave me and I thought of painting it that way. The way a lion jumps, he pulls out his nails. I have made a painting in that way."

Another artist named, Behelti Ama, from Arunachal Pradesh who represents Kamblang Tiger reserve said, "So, in my art, basically, I want to depict the lifestyle of Arunachal Pradesh's Mishmi community, and their relationship with the tiger."

The artist also said that out of the five paints brought in by her to Delhi, four have already been sold during the exhibition.

"NTCA and Sankhla Foundation are doing a great job. They are giving a platform to every tribal artist from their remote areas to exhibit their art. And it's not just about selling. People are able to see how different tribes exhibit their art, their culture, and their relationship with the tigers in every state. So, it's a big deal. And if it's being sold, it's a good thing. It will support them. As an art student, I feel good when people appreciate our paintings or artworks. I feel very happy. I bought 5 paintings, out of which 4 have been sold. So, I am very happy," she said. (ANI)

MSN

'Being Too Tolerant': Dhankhar on Violence Against Hindus in India's Neighbourhood

Story by editor@republicworld.com (Digital Desk)

<https://www.msn.com/en-in/news/India/being-too-tolerant-dhankhar-on-violence-against-hindus-in-indias-neighbourhood/ar-AA1svqs5>

New Delhi: Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Friday flagged human rights violations against Hindus in India's neighbourhood and questioned the global silence, saying being "too tolerant" against such transgressions was not appropriate.

Questioning the "deafening silence" of the "so-called moral preachers, custodians of human rights", he said they stand exposed.

"They are mercenaries of something which is totally antithetical to human rights," he said addressing the foundation day celebrations of the National Human Rights Commission.

He said we are "too tolerant" and being too tolerant to such transgressions is not appropriate.

Call for Reflection on Human Rights Violations

"Think if you were one of those," he said asking the people to reflect.

"Look at the kind of barbarity, torture, traumatised experience of boys, girls, and women," he said, adding look at our religious places being subjected to sacrilege.

However, he did not name any country.

Warning Against Pernicious Forces

The vice president also cautioned that some pernicious forces were trying to show India in a "bad colour" and called for a "counter-attack" to neutralise such attempts.

He also said that India does not like to be sermonised or lectured on human rights.

Historical Context of Human Rights in India

He described Partition, imposition of Emergency and the 1984 anti-Sikh riots as traumatising events which "stand as sombre reminder of fragility of liberty".

Dhankhar said there are "pernicious forces, that in a structured manner, seek to unfairly seek to taint us" and these forces have a "sinister design" to use international fora to question our human rights record.

Rebuttal to Criticisms of India's Human Rights Record

He said there was need to neutralise such forces and they should be neutralised "by actions which exemplify, if I may say in Indian context, 'pratighat' (counter-attack)".

The vice president said these forces have devised indexes and rank everyone in the world to show "our nation in bad colour".

He also hit out at the hunger index which ranked India poorly, saying during the Covid pandemic, the government supported over 80 crore people with free ration regardless of their caste and creed.

The vice president said the "sinister forces" are driven by an agenda which is "fiscally fuelled" by people who seek to make a name for themselves.

"Time to shame them. They try to create havoc with the economic system of the country".

Defense of Minority Rights in India

Underlining the safety of minorities in India, he said the country is way ahead of others when it comes to preserving human rights, particularly those of minorities, the marginalised and vulnerable sections of the society.

He also noted that at the domestic front, some were trying to use human rights to further their political agenda.

Caution Against Using Human Rights as a Foreign Policy Tool

In the course of his address, Dhankhar said, "Evidence in episode after episode" is piling up that the "deep state" is engaging in efforts against rising powers.

Human rights, Dhankhar underlined, cannot and should not be used as a tool of foreign policy to exert power and influence over others.

"Naming and shaming is a degraded form of diplomacy. You have to preach only what you practice," he said.

"Look at our school system- we don't have the kind of shootings that some countries claiming to be very developed have on a regular basis. Think of those nations that turn Nelson's eye to such horrendous transgressions of human rights," he said.

Political Agenda and Demographic Balance Concerns

Dhankhar was of the view that rights of other non-Hindu refugees are repeatedly invoked, "surprisingly, also in the name of human rights, when cases are filed in the Supreme Court." This, he asserted, exposes a political agenda aimed at disrupting the demographic balance of the country, which could have global repercussions.

History is testimony that nations have completely lost their identity by not addressing this issue. It has global repercussions from the perspective of human rights, he warned.

(With PTI inputs)

Economic Times

India's development pathway intertwines with ecological conservation

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/indias-development-pathway-intertwines-with-ecological-conservation/articleshow/114372490.cms?from=mdr>

Last Updated: Oct 19, 2024, 03:05:00 PM IST

Synopsis

India highlights its development entwined with ecological conservation, emphasizing tribal communities' vital role in Project Tiger's success. With 70% of the world's wild tiger population, India's policies integrate environmental and development needs, ensuring no one is left behind.

As the global community prepares for a season of UN-led environment-related negotiations, beginning with biodiversity talks in Cali, Colombia next week, India showcased the way its development story intertwines with ecological conservation, including the role that tribal communities play in conservation efforts.

This, according to External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, is clearly demonstrated in the "shinning success" of Project Tiger. India is home to 70 per cent of world's wild tiger population.

Speaking at the inauguration of the art exhibition 'Silent Conversation', organised by the National Tiger Conservation Authority and Sankala Foundation, a Delhi-based organisation focused on sustainability, Jaishankar focused on the contribution of tribal and other local communities.

"The tribal communities have been the unsung heroes behind the shining success of Project Tiger. They deserve immense credit of this achievement." Focusing on the important role that tribal communities play, Jaishankar spoke of their guardianship of forests and protection to wildlife by planting trees and fighting off poachers. "Any policy works best when it is absorbed by all citizens".

Elucidating on how India's development story was intertwined with environmental conservation, Jaishankar underscored the government's commitment to the welfare of tribal communities. Referring to the 2022 amendments to the Wildlife Protection Act, according to Jaishankar was an effort to balance environment with development needs. The government, he said, is committed to the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes

The concept of Antodaya scheme was based on the principle of upliftment of the marginalised groups and ensuring that no one is left behind. The intertwined nature of environmental wellbeing and development underpins India's efforts in the environmental space. India's stewardship of the International Solar Alliance, which was founded along with France, promoting the practice of yoga across the world, and pushing the

consumption of millets is underpinned by the recognition that development and environmental well-being are inexorably interlinked. must happen simultaneously.

The intertwined nature of development and environmental well-being and people's participation was underscored by Environment, Forests, and Climate Change Minister Bhupendra Yadav, who addressed the gathering via a video message. He said that the effort to highlight the co-existence of communities and nature is evident from the way they live, protect and respect nature. Yadav said that this focus was important as the world address the triple environmental threat of climate change, loss of biodiversity and desertification of soil.

Bharat Lal, Member Secretary, National Human Rights Commission pointed out that the tribal population had been the biggest beneficiary of the government's schemes in the past 10 years which are aimed at reaching out to the last person. Tribal communities, Lal said, followed the conservation ethos of using nature for human need rather than greed.

There are over 1,70,000 villages as per the 2011 Census, located close to forested areas and more than 300 million people, according to the 2021 India State of Forest Report 2021, dependent on the forests for their livelihood.

Janta se Rishta

Delhi: भारत के देव पर्यावरण संरक्षण से गहराई से जुड़े हैं: जयशंकर

<https://jantaserishta.com/delhi-ncr/delhi-indias-gods-are-deeply-connected-to-environmental-protection-jaishankar-3593648>

October 19, 2024

NEW DELHI नई दिल्ली: विदेश मंत्री एस जयशंकर ने शुक्रवार को इस बात पर जोर दिया कि भारत की विकास यात्रा पर्यावरण संरक्षण से गहराई से जुड़ी हुई है। उन्होंने विभिन्न पहलों के माध्यम से अनुसूचित जनजातियों के कल्याण के लिए सरकार की प्रतिबद्धता की पुष्टि की, इस बात पर प्रकाश डाला कि अंत्योदय योजना हाशिए पर पड़े समुदायों के उत्थान के सिद्धांत पर आधारित है और यह सुनिश्चित करती है कि कोई भी पीछे न छूटे। मंत्री नई दिल्ली में कला प्रदर्शनी "साइलेंट कन्वर्सेशन: फ्रॉम मार्जिन्स टू द सेंटर" के दूसरे संस्करण का उद्घाटन कर रहे थे। चार दिवसीय प्रदर्शनी का आयोजन राष्ट्रीय बाघ संरक्षण प्राधिकरण ने संकला फाउंडेशन, राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग और इंटरनेशनल बिग कैट अलायंस के सहयोग से किया है।

जयशंकर ने कहा कि भारत ने प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के नेतृत्व में पर्यावरण संरक्षण में उल्लेखनीय प्रगति हासिल की है। उन्होंने इस बात पर प्रकाश डाला कि वन्यजीव संरक्षण अधिनियम में 2022 के संशोधन का उद्देश्य विकास की जरूरतों के साथ पर्यावरण संरक्षण को संतुलित करना है। उन्होंने राष्ट्रीय बाघ संरक्षण प्राधिकरण की सफलता का श्रेय आदिवासी समुदायों और वनवासियों को दिया, जिनकी संरक्षकता ने जंगलों को पनपने में मदद की है और जो सक्रिय रूप से अवैध शिकार का मुकाबला करते हैं। उन्होंने जनभागीदारी की अवधारणा का हवाला देते हुए इस बात पर जोर दिया कि नीतियां तब सबसे प्रभावी होती हैं जब सभी नागरिक उन्हें अपनाते हैं।

केंद्रीय पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्री भूपेंद्र यादव ने वीडियो संदेश में इस बात पर जोर दिया कि सह-अस्तित्व की भावना दर्शाती है कि समुदाय किस तरह प्रकृति के साथ सद्भाव से रहते हैं, उसकी रक्षा करते हैं और उसका सम्मान करते हैं। उन्होंने इस दृष्टिकोण की प्रशंसा की, खासकर तब जब दुनिया जलवायु परिवर्तन, जैव विविधता हानि और मिट्टी के रेगिस्तानीकरण जैसी गंभीर चुनौतियों का सामना कर रही है। इस अवसर पर, "हिडन ट्रेजर्स: इंडियाज हेरिटेज इन टाइगर रिजर्व्स" नामक पुस्तक और "बिग कैट्स" नामक पत्रिका का भी विमोचन किया गया। प्रदर्शनी का उद्देश्य आदिवासी समुदायों के संरक्षण लोकाचार को पहचानना और इन समुदायों और पर्यावरण के बीच सहजीवी संबंधों को उजागर करना है।

यह भावी पीढ़ियों को इस संबंध की सराहना करने के लिए प्रेरित करना चाहता है और आदिवासी कलाकारों को आगंतुकों के साथ जुड़ने का अवसर प्रदान करता है। प्रदर्शनी में भारत भर के 22 बाघ अभयारण्यों से 200 से अधिक पेंटिंग और 100 कलाकृतियाँ प्रदर्शित की गई हैं। गोंड, वारली, पाटा चित्रा, भील और सोहराई जैसे आदिवासी कला रूपों को प्रदर्शित किया जाता है और बिक्री के लिए उपलब्ध कराया जाता है, जिससे होने वाली आय सीधे कारीगरों को लाभ पहुंचाती है। सभी कलाकृतियाँ टिकाऊ सामग्रियों का उपयोग करके तैयार की जाती हैं, जो स्वदेशी समुदायों की पर्यावरण-अनुकूल जीवन शैली को दर्शाती हैं।

Aaj Tak

दिल्ली में कला प्रदर्शनी 'साइलेंट कन्वर्सेशन: फ्रॉम मार्जिन्स टू द सेंटर' का आयोजन, ट्राइबल आर्ट्स ने मोहा लोगों का मन

दो दिन पहले इस प्रदर्शनी का उद्घाटन भारत के विदेश मंत्री एस जयशंकर ने किया था. उन्होंने अपने संबोधन में कहा कि भारत की विकास यात्रा पर्यावरण संरक्षण के मुद्दे से गहराई से जुड़ी हुई है. उन्होंने विभिन्न पहलों के माध्यम से अनुसूचित जनजातियों के कल्याण के लिए सरकार की प्रतिबद्धता के बारे में जानकारी दी.

<https://www.aajtak.in/india/delhi/story/art-exhibition-silent-conversation-from-margins-to-the-center-organized-in-delhi-showcasing-tribal-arts-ntc-dskc-2075555-2024-10-19>

नई दिल्ली , 19 अक्टूबर 2024, (अपडेटेड 19 अक्टूबर 2024, 7:41 PM IST)

दिल्ली में आर्ट एग्जीबिशन 'साइलेंट कन्वर्सेशन: फ्रॉम मार्जिन्स टू द सेंटर' के दूसरे संस्करण का शनिवार को दूसरा दिन था. इस एग्जीबिशन का आयोजन राष्ट्रीय बाघ संरक्षण प्राधिकरण ने सांकला फाउंडेशन, राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग और इंटरनेशनल बिग कैट अलायंस के सहयोग से किया गया है, जिसमें बढ़-चढ़कर के लोगों ने हिस्सा लिया.

दो दिन पहले इस प्रदर्शनी का उद्घाटन भारत के विदेश मंत्री एस जयशंकर ने किया था. उन्होंने अपने संबोधन में कहा कि भारत की विकास यात्रा पर्यावरण संरक्षण के मुद्दे से गहराई से जुड़ी हुई है. उन्होंने विभिन्न पहलों के माध्यम से अनुसूचित जनजातियों के कल्याण के लिए सरकार की प्रतिबद्धता के बारे में जानकारी दी. एस जयशंकर ने कहा, 'अंत्योदय योजना का मूल उद्देश्य हाशिए पर खड़े समुदायों का उत्थान करना है. यह योजना सुनिश्चित करती है कि भारत की विकास यात्रा में कोई भी समुदाय पीछे न छूटे.'

इस एग्जीबिशन से जुड़ीं सदस्य दिशा नेइस ने बताया कि इस प्रदर्शनी का मकसद हमारे आदिवासी समाज की कहानी को दुनिया के सामने लाना है. उन्होंने कहा कि इस आर्ट एग्जीबिशन के जरिए आदिवासी समाज की कहानी को हमने लोगों के सामने लाने की एक छोटी सी कोशिश की है. देश के अलग-अलग हिस्सों से ट्राइबल आर्ट को इस एग्जीबिशन में प्रदर्शित किया गया है.

एग्जीबिशन को देखने के लिए देश के अलग-अलग हिस्सों से ट्राइबल समाज के लोग भी दिल्ली पहुंचे. इस अवसर पर, 'हिडेन ट्रेजर्स: इंडियाज हेरिटेज इन टाइगर रिजर्व्स' नामक पुस्तक और 'बिग कैट्स' नामक पत्रिका का भी विमोचन किया गया.

Hindustan

नवजात को कुत्ते द्वारा नोचे जाने में मामले में डीएम से मांगी रिपोर्ट

मुजफ्फरपुर के एसकेएमसीएच के मुख्य द्वार के पास कचरे में नवजात बच्चे का शव मिलने पर राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग ने डीएम को नोटिस भेजा है। डीएम को 25 नवंबर को कार्रवाई रिपोर्ट के साथ उपस्थित होने का...

<https://www.livehindustan.com/bihar/muzaffarpur/story-human-rights-commission-issues-notice-to-dm-over-newborn-s-body-found-in-garbage-201729356318309.html>

Newsrap हिन्दुस्तान, मुजफ्फरपुरSat, 19 Oct 2024 04:45 PM

मुजफ्फरपुर, मुख्य संवाददाता। एसकेएमसीएच के मुख्य द्वार के पास कचरे के ढेर पर नवजात बच्चे के शव को कुत्ते द्वारा नोचकर खाने के मामले में राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग ने डीएम को नोटिस करते हुए समन भेजा है। इसमें डीएम को 25 नवंबर को मामले में एक्शन टेकेन रिपोर्ट के साथ स्वयं उपस्थिति होने को कहा है। अगर डीएम 18 नवंबर तक आयोग को कार्रवाई रिपोर्ट भेज देते हैं तो उन्हें स्वयं आने की आवश्यकता नहीं होगी।

आयोग की ओर से मिले इस पत्र के बाद डीएम सुब्रत कुमार सेन ने एडीएम रेवेन्यू के नेतृत्व में तीन सदस्यीय कमेटी का गठन किया है। इसमें एडीएम के साथ एसकेएमसीएच अधीक्षक व एसडीसी डॉ. अर्चना कुमारी को शामिल किया गया है। डीएम ने टीम को एक सप्ताह में जांच प्रतिवेदन उपलब्ध कराने को कहा है, ताकि आयोग को रिपोर्ट भेजी जा सके। इस मामले में आयोग के समक्ष सिविल कोर्ट के ह्यूमन राइट्स एसोसिएशन के अधिवक्ता एसके झा ने वाद दायर किया था। इसमें बताया कि 15 मई 2024 को एसकेएमसीएच के मुख्य गेट के पास कचरे के ढेर पर नवजात का शव फेंका हुआ मिला था। उसे कुत्ते द्वारा घंटों तक नोचकर खाया जा रहा था, लेकिन उसे न तो मेडिकल कॉलेज के मैनेजमेंट और न पुलिस ने देखा। 16 मई को यह खबर मीडिया में प्रकाशित हुई जिससे अस्पताल को इसका पता चला। यह व्यवस्था अस्पताल में नवजात के सुरक्षा के सवाल खड़ा करती है। भविष्य में ऐसी घटना न घटे और इसके लिए जो भी दोषी है उसके विरुद्ध कड़ी कार्रवाई की जाए।

Adda247

एनएचआरसी ने राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन का समापन किया, वृद्धजनों के अधिकारों की वकालत की

<https://hindicurrentaffairs.adda247.com/nhrc-concludes-national-conference-advocates-for-older-persons-rights/>

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अपने 31वें स्थापना दिवस पर, राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (NHRC) ने नई दिल्ली के विज्ञान भवन में “वयोवृद्ध व्यक्तियों के अधिकार” पर एक दिवसीय राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन का आयोजन किया। इस दौरान कार्यवाहक अध्यक्ष श्रीमती विजय भारती सयानी ने बुजुर्गों की भूमिका को राष्ट्र के इतिहास के निर्माता, सांस्कृतिक धरोहर के रक्षक और परिवारों के आधार स्तंभ के रूप में महत्वपूर्ण बताया।

सम्मेलन का अवलोकन

NHRC का 31वां स्थापना दिवस: सम्मेलन का विषय “वयोवृद्ध व्यक्तियों के अधिकार” था।

इस आयोजन का उद्देश्य भारत में वृद्ध जनसंख्या द्वारा सामना की जा रही चुनौतियों पर ध्यान केंद्रित करना था।

कार्यवाहक अध्यक्ष का संबोधन

श्रीमती विजय भारती सयानी: उन्होंने बुजुर्गों को “हमारे राष्ट्र के इतिहास के निर्माता” के रूप में वर्णित किया और समाज व परिवार में उनकी अहमियत पर जोर दिया।

उन्होंने बुजुर्गों के लिए सम्मान, करुणा, और गरिमा की आवश्यकता पर बल दिया।

वयोवृद्ध व्यक्तियों द्वारा सामना की जा रही चुनौतियाँ

बहु-आयामी मुद्दे: वित्तीय असुरक्षा, स्वास्थ्य सेवा की असमानताएँ, सामाजिक अलगाव, और भेदभाव वृद्ध व्यक्तियों के जीवन की गुणवत्ता को प्रभावित करते हैं।

कानूनी और नीतिगत ढांचा: मौजूदा कानून और सरकारी योजनाएँ तो हैं, लेकिन उनका प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन एक चुनौती बना हुआ है।

तत्काल आवश्यकताएँ

सस्ती और गुणवत्ता वाली स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं तक पहुंच।

वयोवृद्ध व्यक्तियों की मानसिक स्वास्थ्य आवश्यकताओं का ध्यान।

पर्याप्त पेंशन और सामाजिक सुरक्षा लाभ।

सुरक्षित और किफायती आवास विकल्प।

वित्तीय साक्षरता ताकि वृद्ध व्यक्ति सूचित वित्तीय निर्णय ले सकें।

भेदभाव विरोधी उपाय

आयु-आधारित भेदभाव: रोजगार, आवास और स्वास्थ्य सेवा में वृद्ध व्यक्तियों के साथ होने वाले भेदभाव को रोकने के लिए कानूनों को मजबूत और सख्ती से लागू करना।

वृद्ध दुर्व्यवहार को रोकने और इसका समाधान करने के उपाय लागू करना।

ऐतिहासिक संदर्भ

NHRC के महासचिव श्री भरत लाल ने भारत की बुजुर्गों का सम्मान करने की परंपरा पर प्रकाश डाला, और शहरीकरण व परमाणु परिवार संरचनाओं के कारण उत्पन्न समकालीन चुनौतियों का उल्लेख किया।

वृद्ध जनसंख्या की क्षमता को उपयोगी बनाने के लिए एक सहायक वातावरण बनाने की आवश्यकता पर जोर दिया गया।

तकनीकी सत्र

सम्मेलन में तीन तकनीकी सत्र आयोजित किए गए:

“वृद्धावस्था की आयु”

“वृद्धावस्था का लैंगिक विश्लेषण”

“स्वास्थ्य देखभाल परिदृश्य का मूल्यांकन”

इन चर्चाओं का उद्देश्य नीतिगत खामियों की पहचान करना और आगे का रास्ता सुझाना था।

सरकारी प्रतिबद्धता

केंद्रीय मंत्री श्री अमित यादव ने वयोवृद्ध व्यक्तियों के कल्याण के प्रति सरकार की प्रतिबद्धता की पुष्टि की, और मौजूदा कानूनों में संभावित बदलावों का संकेत दिया।

विशेषज्ञों और हितधारकों के साथ मिलकर बुजुर्गों द्वारा सामना की जा रही चुनौतियों को हल करने पर जोर दिया गया।

लैंगिक दृष्टिकोण

UNFPA इंडिया की प्रतिनिधि मिस एंड्रिया एम. वोज़्नार ने राष्ट्रीय नीति की समीक्षा की आवश्यकता पर जोर दिया, जिसमें पीढ़ियों के बीच दृष्टिकोण पर ध्यान केंद्रित किया गया।

वयोवृद्ध व्यक्तियों की जरूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए प्रौद्योगिकी को महत्वपूर्ण साधन के रूप में पहचाना गया।

स्वास्थ्य देखभाल पर ध्यान केंद्रित

नीति आयोग के डॉ. वी. के. पॉल ने वृद्ध व्यक्तियों की भलाई पर स्वास्थ्य सेवा के प्रभाव पर चर्चा की, जिसमें उत्पादकता और सामाजिक सुरक्षा पर जोर दिया गया।

भविष्य की सिफारिशें

NHRC सम्मेलन के दौरान किए गए विभिन्न सुझावों पर और विचार करेगा ताकि सरकार को वृद्ध व्यक्तियों की देखभाल और कल्याण तंत्र को मजबूत करने के लिए सिफारिशें दी जा सकें।