

NHRC receives 83 complaints in 3 months in Gombe – Official

<https://newsdiaryonline.com/nhrc-receives-83-complaints-in-3-months-in-gombe-official/>

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), in Gombe State, said it received no fewer than 83 complaints of alleged human rights violations between January and March.

Mr Ali Alola-Alfinti, the state's Public Relations Officer, NHRC, said this in an interview with the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Gombe on Tuesday.

Alola-Alfinti said the complaints received in the first quarter of the year, represented 42.2 per cent increase compared with the 48 cases received within the same period in 2023.

He explained that out of the 83 cases received, 23 were on fathers abandoning their children, 18 on inhuman and degrading treatment, 11 on domestic violence, six on threat to life, while two were on rape.

He said others included three denial of custody of a child, five denial of right to economic empowerment, one forced marriage and two cases of denial of right to inheritance, amongst others.

He said 10 ca

ses were referred to relevant authorities for proper handling as they didn't fall within the mandate of the commission.

The spokesperson also said 56 out of the 73 complaints received had been effectively resolved through alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.

He said the other complaints were still undergoing treatment as those that needed prosecution had been taken to court.

Alola-Alfinti said although the abandonment of children by fathers had reduced, it was still a cause for worry.

He added that the reduction in the number of cases of fathers abandoning their children was due to several economic interventions by both the Federal and Gombe State governments, which helped in mitigating hardship among citizens.

He called on parents, especially fathers, not to run away and leave their children without food, shelter, and drugs, noting that such amounted to violation of the rights of those children, and was punishable by law.

“Parents should device means to cater for their children as long as we brought them to the world, we have the responsibility of caring for them.

“Sometimes you see fathers abandoning their children to the care of their mothers, who are then forced to take to begging and exposing the children to more risks since their mothers are always away,” he said.

Alola-Alfinti further said violations of human rights were still underreported in spite of the commission’s intensified campaign to communities and other stakeholders in the state.

According to him, people are now coming out to report, but the number of reported cases is still low, hence we urge residents whose rights have been violated to speak up.

He said one of the dangers of keeping quiet when rights are violated was the tendency for such violations to spread to other innocent persons who ended up as victims because the first victim failed to report.

“We receive complaints on zero-kobo meaning we don’t receive any money to take complaints.

“Lodging complaints is as easy as locating our office and you will be registered free for your complaints to be heard and documented for treatment,” he said. (NAN)

NHRC Chairman inaugurates online short-term internship of the Commission; 80 university level students from diverse educational backgrounds are participating in the internship.

<https://insamachar.com/nhrc-chairman-inaugurates-online-short-term-internship-of-the-commission-80-university-level-students-from-diverse-educational-backgrounds-are-participating-in-the-internship/>

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Chairman Justice Arun Mishra has stressed the importance of distributive justice to maintain socio-economic rights. Inaugurating the online short-term internship of the Commission, he said that India has a rich tradition of imbuing a culture of respect for human rights. This ethos needs to be strengthened to deal with issues like bonded labour, human trafficking and cyber crime. He cautioned against digital divide and misuse of cyberspace for criminal activities.

Urging the trainees to dream big and aspire for change, Justice Mishra invoked the words of Swami Vivekananda, "Arise, awake and stop not till the goal is achieved," to inspire the trainees to strive for justice and equality. Inspired to persevere in the search.

Earlier, NHRC Secretary General Bharat Lal in his opening remarks emphasized the important role of the Commission in seeking justice for victims of human rights violations. He emphasized on the transformative power of knowledge to excel in life. She encouraged interns to take advantage of the diverse aspects of the internship, including book review competitions and collaborative group research projects designed to foster personal growth and teamwork among participants.

This internship is from 29 April 2024 to 10 May 2024. 80 university level students from diverse educational backgrounds are participating in it. This internship will create an enriching experience environment for the trainees, including virtual visits to prisons, shelter homes and NGOs and engaging competitions and sessions led by esteemed guests from various fields.

Rights & India

<https://www.orissapost.com/rights-india/>

India's record of human rights in the past few years has come under serious international scanner. The recent ethnic strife in Manipur, when the state machinery was blatantly used to help the majority ethnic community to settle scores with a minority group in genocidal attacks, brought worldwide condemnation.

In this backdrop, the United Nations Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) will hold its session in the first week of May to decide, among other things, whether the National Human Rights Commission of India (NHRC) will retain its "A" status. The NHRC's ratings were put on hold in 2023 when the UN body took exception to the presence of police personnel in human rights investigation and the lack of gender and minority representation. Police inclusions violate international conventions and defeat the very rationale of protection of human rights. Downgrading NHRC's rating from A to B, which is in the realm of possibility, would affect its ability to vote at the UN Human Rights Council and some other UN General Assembly bodies.

The meeting of the Sub-Committee on Accreditation (SCA) of the GANHRI in May is part of the five-year peer review for each member of the 114-member alliance. Sensing the reservations the world body has for India's recent human rights record, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) is reportedly reaching out to various countries involved in the review process to make its case through diplomatic channels.

Since being accredited in 1999, India had retained its 'A' ranking in 2006 and 2011. But, two years after the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) assumed power in 2014, its status was first downgraded and then restored after a year. This is the second time during the Modi government that it is facing a possible listing downgrade. There are reasons for being concerned. In March, 2023 the SCA made a six-point submission to slam India for the involvement of police officers in its investigative process, calling it a "conflict of interest." The NHRC, however, sought to rebut the charge arguing that the presence of government officials, including Secretary-General and CEO, NHRC, former Gujarat-cadre IAS officer Bharat Lal, adds to the effectiveness of the body. At present, of the two individual members of the NHRC, one member Rajiv Jain is an IPS officer who was Director of the Intelligence Bureau, while the Director-General of Investigation is former Special Director, CBI, Ajay Bhatnagar.

The criticism stems from the fact that the appointment of a police officer who had worked as the country's intelligence chief undermines the neutrality of the human rights body as his pro-government bias after having served it for years cannot be ruled out, to say the least.

This makes human rights watchdogs suspect that the NHRC is turning into a coercive mechanism to stifle protest and assertion of human rights by civil society activists, journalists or any other individuals. In fact, the suspicion has been strengthened by umpteen cases of incarceration of advocates of free speech in India under the current

regime. The death in custody, that too in very inhuman conditions of Stan Swamy, who raised his voice for justice to the downtrodden, is a case still fresh in public memory.

In a joint letter to GANHRI dated 26 March, 2024, nine human rights groups, including Amnesty International, expressed growing concerns about increasing restrictions on civil society and “discrimination against minorities ahead of the country’s General Elections.” They also cited various development and human rights indices that have downgraded India’s ratings in the past few years.

These groups reportedly have urged the GANHRI-SCA to amend the current ‘A’ rating of the NHRC to accurately reflect its failure to comply with the Paris Principles and address the deteriorating human rights situation in India. In a related development, the US State Department’s latest global report spoke of “significant” human rights concerns in India. Predictably, the MEA has rubbished the report calling it biased and reflecting a “poor understanding of India.” But, that is too simplistic an observation and it skirts the main issue. Being in a denial mode is no answer.

This is especially so when India has seen too many cases of civil society activists either dying in custody or languishing in jail after having been put behind bars under draconian laws on trumped-up charges.

Spewing hatred against minority groups for capturing power and taking ruthless measures against critics of the government may bring short term benefits. But, in the long run such blinkered policies lower a country’s standing in the comity of nations and harm its social fabric.

रीवा: राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग के स्पेशल मानीटर ने किया विभिन्न संस्थाओं का निरीक्षण

<https://udaipurkiran.in/rewa-special-monitor-of-national-human-rights-commission-inspected-various-institutions/>

रीवा, 30 अप्रैल (Udaipur Kiran) . राष्ट्रीय मानव अधिकार आयोग के स्पेशल मानीटर बालकृष्ण गोयल ने अपने रीवा जिले के दो दिवसीय प्रवास के दूसरे दिन Tuesday को भी विभिन्न संस्थाओं का निरीक्षण किया. उन्होंने उत्कृष्ट विद्यालय एवं गीतांजलि विद्यालय का निरीक्षण कर विद्यार्थियों को दी जानी वाली सुविधाओं की जानकारी ली.

स्पेशल मानीटर गोयल ने उत्कृष्ट विद्यालय के भ्रमण के दौरान विद्यालय में उपलब्ध प्राथमिक चिकित्सा किट का निरीक्षण किया तथा गुणवत्तापूर्ण दवाइयाँ न पाये जाने पर संबंधित के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही करने हेतु जिला शिक्षा अधिकारी को निर्देशित किया. उन्होंने विद्यालय में पीने की पानी तथा साफ-सफाई की व्यवस्था दुरुस्त रखने के निर्देश दिये.

स्पेशल मानीटर ने विद्यालयों में बच्चों को गुडटच, बैडटच के विषय में समझाइश देने की बात कही. उन्होंने पाक्सों एक्ट, जेजे एक्ट, लैगिंग उत्पीड़न, बालश्रम, भिक्षावृत्ति आदि विषय में जनचेतना लाने व जागरूक किये जाने के निर्देश दिये. भ्रमण के दौरान जिला शिक्षा अधिकारी सुदामा गुप्ता, सहायक संचालक महिला एवं बाल विकास आशीष द्विवेदी उपस्थित रहे.

NHRC Chairperson Emphasizes Distributive Justice At Internship Inauguration

<https://www.jaisalmernews.com/news/national/nhrc-chairperson-emphasizes-distributive-justice-at-internship-inauguration-235367/>

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Chairperson, Justice Arun Mishra emphasized the significance of distributive justice for upholding socio-economic rights. Inaugurating the online short-term internship of the Commission in New Delhi yesterday, Justice Mishra said that India has a rich tradition of cultural assimilations having respect for human rights. He further added, this ethos needs to be strengthened to address issues like bonded labour, human trafficking and cybercrime. He cautioned against the digital divide and misuse of cyberspace for criminal activities.

The internship will conclude on the 10th of May. Eighty university-level students from diverse academic backgrounds are attending the internship. It aims to provide an enriching experience for interns, featuring virtual tours to prisons, shelter homes, and NGOs and engaging competitions and sessions led by esteemed guests from various fields.

Prajwal Revanna Scandal: पूर्व पीएम देवेगौड़ा के पोते MP प्रज्वल रेवन्ना JDS से सस्पेंड, NCW ने कर्नाटक DGP से मांगी रिपोर्ट

https://www.haribhoomi.com/national/news/karnataka-mp-prajwal-revanna-suspended-from-jds-amid-allegations-of-scandal-22753#google_vignette

Prajwal Revanna Suspended: पूर्व सीएम एचडी कुमारस्वामी ने कहा कि मैंने गलत करने वालों का कभी भी बचाव नहीं किया है। लेकिन इस विवाद में पूर्व पीएम एचडी देवेगौड़ा का नाम लेना गलत है। कांग्रेस परिवार में फूट डालने की कोशिश कर रही है।

Prajwal Revanna Suspended: लोकसभा चुनाव के बीच पूर्व प्रधानमंत्री एचडी देवेगौड़ा का परिवार सुर्खियों में है। इसकी वजह कथित सेक्स स्कैंडल है। इस स्कैंडल में देवेगौड़ा के विधायक बेटे एचडी रेवन्ना और हासन सीट से सांसद पोते प्रज्वल रेवन्ना पर लगे गंभीर आरोप हैं। इन पर यौन शोषण, वीडियो रिकॉर्ड करने, धमकाने और साजिश रचने जैसे संगीन आरोप हैं। मामले में रेवन्ना के खिलाफ एसआईटी जांच तेज कर दी गई है। **राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग** ने डीजीपी से रिपोर्ट तलब की है।

इस बीच मंगलवार, 30 अप्रैल को सांसद प्रज्वल रेवन्ना को जनता दल (सेक्युलर) यानी JD (S) से निलंबित कर दिया गया। प्रज्वल रेवन्ना को पार्टी ने कारण बताओ नोटिस भी जारी किया है। पार्टी की कोर कमेटी के अध्यक्ष जीटी देवेगौड़ा ने कहा कि हमने अध्यक्ष को एसआईटी जांच पूरी होने तक के लिए प्रज्वल को पार्टी से सस्पेंड करने को कहा है।

वहीं, पूर्व सीएम एचडी कुमारस्वामी ने कहा कि मैंने गलत करने वालों का कभी भी बचाव नहीं किया है। लेकिन इस विवाद में पूर्व पीएम एचडी देवेगौड़ा का नाम लेना गलत है। कांग्रेस परिवार में फूट डालने की कोशिश कर रही है।

स्कैंडल मामले में दो केस दर्ज

कर्नाटक के हासन में इस केस में दो मामले दर्ज किए गए हैं। एक केस एचडी रेवन्ना और उनके बेटे प्रज्वल रेवन्ना के खिलाफ दर्ज किया गया है। दूसरा मामला नवीन गौड़ा के खिलाफ है। दोनों मामलों की जांच कर्नाटक सरकार के आदेश पर एसआईटी कर रही है।

28 अप्रैल को जर्मनी फरार प्रज्वल

33 साल के प्रज्वल रेवन्ना बीते शनिवार, 28 अप्रैल को जर्मनी फरार हो गए। रेवन्ना का दावा है कि उनके वीडियो के साथ छेड़छाड़ की गई है। उनकी छवि को खराब करने के लिए लोकसभा चुनाव के दूसरे फेज की वोटिंग से ठीक एक दिन बाद लीक किया गया। वहीं, प्रज्वल के विदेश भागने पर उसके पिता एचडी रेवन्ना ने कहा कि उसका विदेश जाने का प्लान पहले से तय था। उसे नहीं पता था कि एफआईआर होने वाली है। उसे जांच के लिए बुलाया जाएगा तो वह आ जाएगा।

अमित शाह बोले- कर्नाटक में सरकार किसकी?

इस पूरे विवाद केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने भी प्रतिक्रिया दी है। असम में पूछे गए सवाल पर गृह मंत्री ने कहा कि हम देश की 'मातृ शक्ति' के साथ खड़े हैं। भाजपा का यह रुख स्पष्ट है। लेकिन कांग्रेस से मेरा एक सवाल है कि कर्नाटक में किसकी सरकार है? सरकार कांग्रेस पार्टी की है। प्रज्वल पर अब तक कोई कार्रवाई क्यों नहीं की गई? हमें (केंद्र सरकार) इस पर कार्रवाई नहीं करनी है। क्योंकि यह राज्य की कानून व्यवस्था का मामला है। हम जांच के पक्ष में हैं और हमारे सहयोगी जद (एस) ने भी इसके खिलाफ कार्रवाई करने की घोषणा की है।

यह पूरा स्कैंडल रेवन्ना के घर पर काम करने वाली एक महिला की एफआईआर से सामने आया है। महिला ने एचडी रेवन्ना और उनके बेटे प्रज्वल पर यौन शोषण का आरोप लगाया है। आरोप लगाया कि 2019 से 2022 के बीच कई बार उसका यौन शोषण किया गया।

महिला ने यह भी दावा किया कि प्रज्वल रेवन्ना ने उनके साथ अभद्र व्यवहार किया और वीडियो कॉल पर उनकी बेटी के साथ भी दुर्व्यवहार किया। प्रज्वल के पिता एचडी रेवन्ना ने भी उस समय उसका यौन उत्पीड़न किया जब उसकी पत्नी घर पर नहीं थी।

महिला आयोग ने डीजीपी से तलब की रिपोर्ट

राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग (NCW) ने सांसद प्रज्वल रेवन्ना से जुड़े 'अश्लील वीडियो' मामले पर कर्नाटक के डीजीपी को पत्र लिखा है। आयोग इस घटना की कड़ी निंदा की है। साथ ही अब तक उठाए गए कदमों की एक विस्तृत रिपोर्ट तीन दिनों के भीतर मांगी है।

NMC initiates online mental health survey of medical students, faculty

<https://www.educationtimes.com/article/newsroom/99735426/nmc-initiates-online-mental-health-survey-of-medical-students-faculty>

The Commission says the identity of the participants will be kept confidential

Concerned over deteriorating mental health of medical students, the anti-ragging cell of National Medical Commission (NMC) has constituted a national task force on mental health and well-being of medical students. The task force has recently decided to conduct an online survey of medical students as well as the faculty in medical colleges.

All the medical students and faculties of the medical college are requested to submit their responses by May 3, 2024.

“Identity of the participants will be kept confidential and will not be shared with anyone. It will be used by the Task Force only for the purpose of analysis and recommendations in its report,” adds the NMC notification.

Following this, the medical associations have lauded the Commission’s move.

According to Dr Lakshya Mittal, national president to United Doctors Front Association (UDFA), the decision was taken following last week’s National Human Rights Commission meeting (**NHRC**) attended by NMC officials, health ministry officials and several medical associations.

“Instant & Wonderful move by @NMC_IND after core committee meeting held by @India_NHRC with @udfaindia & various other orgs Great initiative to address the burning issue of Mental Health amongst medical UGs & PGs,” says Dr Mittal.

Terming NMC’s decision to conduct survey on mental health as “laudable”, the Federation of Resident Doctors' Association (FORDA) said, “A much needed initiative to address the burning issue of Mental Health amongst medical graduates and postgraduates. Wheels are turning, we will fight and defeat this demon of mental stress, TOGETHER!”

As many as 153 MBBS and 1,117 in postgraduate medical courses have dropped out of medical colleges in the last five years, according to the National Medical Commission (NMC) data. The data was revealed by the apex medical commission while responding to a Right to Information (RTI) application.

According to NMC data, 153 MBBS and 1120 doctors pursuing PG medical courses dropped out of their institutes in the last five years. Apart from the dropouts, at least 122 medical students, 64 in MBBS and 58 in post-graduate courses died by suicide between 2018 - 2023.



What the soul sees and has experienced, that it knows; the rest is appearance, prejudice and opinion.

SRI AUROBINDO



Rights & India

India's record of human rights in the past few years has come under serious international scanner. The recent ethnic strife in Manipur, when the state machinery was blatantly used to help the majority ethnic community to settle scores with a minority group in genocidal attacks, brought worldwide condemnation. In this backdrop, the United Nations Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) will hold its session in the first week of May to decide, among other things, whether the National Human Rights Commission of India (NHRC) will retain its "A" status. The NHRC's ratings were put on hold in 2023 when the UN body took exception to the presence of police personnel in human rights investigation and the lack of gender and minority representation. Police inclusions violate international conventions and defeat the very rationale of protection of human rights. Downgrading NHRC's rating from A to B, which is in the realm of possibility, would affect its ability to vote at the UN Human Rights Council and some other UN General Assembly bodies.

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Since being accredited in 1999, India had retained its 'A' ranking in 2006 and 2011. But, two years after the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) assumed power in 2014, its status was first downgraded and then restored after a year. This is the second time during the Modi government that it is facing a possible listing downgrade. There are reasons for being concerned. In March, 2023 the SCA made a six-point submission to slam India for the involvement of police officers in its investigative process, calling it a "conflict of interest." The NHRC, however, sought to rebut the charge arguing that the presence of government officials, including Secretary-General and CEO, NHRC, former Gujarat-cadre IAS officer Bharat Lal, adds to the effectiveness of the body. At present, of the two individual members of the NHRC, one member Rajiv Jain is an IPS officer who was Director of the Intelligence Bureau, while the Director-General of Investigation is former Special Director, CBI, Ajay Bhatnagar.

The criticism stems from the fact that the appointment of a police officer who had worked as the country's intelligence chief undermines the neutrality of the human rights body as his pro-government bias after having served it for years cannot be ruled out, to say the least. This makes human rights watchdogs suspect that the NHRC is turning into a coercive mechanism to stifle protest and assertion of human rights by civil society activists, journalists or any other individuals. In fact, the suspicion has been strengthened by umpteen cases of incarceration of advocates of free speech in India under the current regime. The death in custody, that too in very inhuman conditions of Stan Swamy, who raised his voice for justice to the downtrodden, is a case still fresh in public memory.

In a joint letter to GANHRI dated 26 March, 2024, nine human rights groups, including Amnesty International, expressed growing concerns about increasing restrictions on civil society and "discrimination against minorities ahead of the country's General Elections." They also cited various development and human rights indices that have downgraded India's ratings in the past few years.

These groups reportedly have urged the GANHRI-SCA to amend the current 'A' rating of the NHRC to accurately reflect its failure to comply with the Paris Principles and address the deteriorating human rights situation in India. In a related development, the US State Department's latest global report spoke of "significant" human rights concerns in India. Predictably, the MEA has rubbished the report calling it biased and reflecting a "poor understanding of India." But, that is too simplistic an observation and it skirts the main issue. Being in a denial mode is no answer. This is especially so when India has seen too many cases of civil society activists either dying in custody or languishing in jail after having been put behind bars under draconian laws on trumped-up charges.

Spewing hatred against minority groups for capturing power and taking ruthless measures against critics of the government may bring short term benefits. But, in the long run such blinkered policies lower a country's standing in the comity of nations and harm its social fabric.

रीवा: राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग के स्पेशल मानीटर ने किया विभिन्न संस्थाओं का निरीक्षण

<https://www.hindusthansamachar.in/Encyc/2024/4/30/Special-Monitor-of-National-Human-Rights.php>

रीवा, 30 अप्रैल (हि.स.)। राष्ट्रीय मानव अधिकार आयोग के स्पेशल मानीटर बालकृष्ण गोयल ने अपने रीवा जिले के दो दिवसीय प्रवास के दूसरे दिन मंगलवार को भी विभिन्न संस्थाओं का निरीक्षण किया। उन्होंने ने उत्कृष्ट विद्यालय एवं गीतांजलि विद्यालय का निरीक्षण कर विद्यार्थियों को दी जानी वाली सुविधाओं की जानकारी ली। स्पेशल मानीटर गोयल ने उत्कृष्ट विद्यालय के भ्रमण के दौरान विद्यालय में उपलब्ध प्राथमिक चिकित्सा किट का निरीक्षण किया तथा गुणवत्तापूर्ण दवाइयाँ न पाये जाने पर संबंधित के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही करने हेतु जिला शिक्षा अधिकारी को निर्देशित किया। उन्होंने ने विद्यालय में पीने की पानी तथा साफ-सफाई की व्यवस्था दुरूस्त रखने के निर्देश दिये। स्पेशल मानीटर ने विद्यालयों में बच्चों को गुडटच, बैडटच के विषय में समझाइश देने की बात कही। उन्होंने ने पाक्सों एक्ट, जेजे एक्ट, लैंगिलै ग उत्पीड़न, बालश्रम, भिक्षावृत्ति आदि विषय में जनचेतना लाने व जा गरूक किये जाने के निर्देश दिये। भ्रमण के दौरान जिला शिक्षा अधिकारी सुदामा गुप्ता, सहायक संचालक महिला एवं बाल विकास आशीष द्विवेदी उपस्थित रहे। हिन्दुस्थान समाचार / मुकेश