

‘Assess performance, not NHRC DNA’

Citing fundamental flaw in argument, NHRC chief questions global body for deferring accreditation for nat'l panel



NHRC Chairperson Justice V Ramasubramanian, left, and Dinamani Editor K Vaidyanathan during the conclave on Monday | ASHWIN PRASATH

BINITA JAISWAL @Chennai

NATIONAL Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Chairperson Justice V Ramasubramanian raised strong objections to the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) for deferring NHRC's accreditation during the inaugural session of the 13th ThinkEdu Conclave held on Monday.

Speaking on the topic 'Balancing the Scales: Rights, Duties and

the Indian Soul,' moderated by *Dinamani* Editor Vaidyanathan, Justice Ramasubramanian addressed GANHRI's rationale for withholding NHRC's accreditation for the past two years. GANHRI, the apex certification body for national human rights institutions, cited the commission's non-compliance with the Paris Principles of 1993.

"I think there is a fundamental flaw in their argument. If you have to assess an institution and give accreditation, you must assess its performance and not its DNA," said the

NHRC chairperson.

He added, "If you assess the performance of NHRC and say it is not up to the standard, we do not give you accreditation, I agree. But if you say that there is a congenital deformity in how you are born, then I think it's not about the accreditation of NHRC, but it is an accreditation of the government."

Justice Ramasubramanian acknowledged resolving the delay in accreditation has been a major challenge since taking over as NHRC chairperson a little over a month ago. Addition-

ally, he highlighted the complexity of enforcing human rights in a country as diverse as India, which has people practising more than eight major religions worldwide, divided by 1,640 castes and communities, speaking more than 22 official languages, and having different ethnicities.

In response to questions about whether NHRC is considered toothless, Justice Ramasubramanian stressed on NHRC's power to inquire, investigate, and make recommendations.

Talking about rights and du-

ties, Justice Ramasubramanian said historically all societies including India have been duty-conscious societies rather than right-conscious. But the course of history took a detour around the 20th century with a focus on rights.

"The debate of rights vs duty has again regained momentum and there is an increasing awareness that their duties to fellow human beings have become the focus worldwide. Without imbibing upon ourselves the duty to respect the rights of others, I think our rights will be put in jeopardy," he said.

Delivering the welcome address, Editorial Director of *TNIE*, Prabhu Chawla, highlighted *TNIE* is the only newspaper in the country to have sustained a high-quality conclave on education for the last 13 years.

"In the world of market, where valuations are becoming more important, we are all devoted to the values of Bharat," he said. He further added that education is not commerce alone, but a value-building exercise for the newspaper.

Recalling the conclave's journey, Chawla noted that it has hosted 500 speakers who had participated in discussions on themes such as the Indianisation of education and entrepreneurship in skilling students. However, he cautioned against over-reliance on artificial intelligence (AI), warning of its potential to undermine critical thinking. He urged the need to balance modernity with traditional knowledge.

A theme song created using AI was also played during the inaugural session.



NHRC notes reported death of lineman

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India took suo moto cognisance of a media report that a lineman with the Dakshin Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam (DHBVN) died due to electrocution while working on an electricity transformer in Sikanderpur Badha, Gurugram, Haryana on Jan 21. Reportedly, the electricity supply was resumed even as he was working.

The Commission has observed that the contents of the news report, if true, raise a serious violation of the human rights of the victim.

NHRC is not a toothless tiger says its chairperson V Ramasubramanian at ThinkEdu Conclave 2025

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/events/thinkedu1/2025/Jan/27/nhrc-is-not-a-toothless-tiger-says-chairperson-v-ramasubramanian>

He was speaking on the topic 'Balancing the Scales: Rights, Duties and the Indian Soul,' during the inaugural session of the 13th edition of the ThinkEdu conclave 2025.

27 Jan 2025, 12:40 pm

CHENNAI: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) is not a toothless tiger. It has powers equivalent to those of a civil court, NHRC chairperson V Ramasubramanian said on Monday.

He was replying to a question during the inaugural session of the 13th edition of the ThinkEdu conclave 2025 when he said, "We have the power to summon and enforce the attendance of witnesses. We have the power to record evidence if somebody does not turn up, we can follow the same steps as a civil court can enforce attendance. Therefore, it is not a toothless tiger."

The inaugural session of the ThinkEdu was on the theme 'Where India meets Bharat.'

Ramasubramanian strongly objected to the reason given by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) for deferring accreditation to NHRC.

Speaking on the topic 'Balancing the Scales: Rights, Duties and the Indian Soul,' moderated by Dinamani Editor Vaidyanathan. Ramasubramanian said GANHRI, the apex certification body of all national human rights institutions, has deferred NHRC's accreditation for the last two years on the grounds that it has not been constituted as per the Paris Principles, 1993.

"I think there is a fundamental flaw in their argument. If you have to assess an institution and give accreditation, you must assess its performance and not its DNA," said the chairperson of NHRC.

He further added, "If you assess the performance of NHRC and say that it is not up to the standard, we do not give you accreditation, I agree. But if you say that there is a congenital deformity in the way you are born, then I think it's not about the accreditation of NHRC, but it is an accreditation of the government."

Ramasubramanian agreed that the delay in granting global accreditation to NHRC is one of the major challenges for the organisation he took over as chairperson more than a month ago, but he is taking steps to resolve it.

He said that another challenge is enforcing human rights in a diverse country like India, which has people practicing more than eight major religions worldwide, divided by 1,640 castes and communities, speaking more than 22 official languages, and having different ethnicities.

Talking about rights and duties, Ramasubramanian said that historically all societies including India have been duty-conscious societies rather than right-conscious. But the course of history took a detour around the 20th century with the focus turning towards the rights. "The debate of rights vs duty has again regained momentum and there is an increasing awareness that their duties to fellow human beings have become the focus worldwide. Without imbibing upon ourselves the duty to respect the rights of others, I think our own rights will be put in jeopardy," he said.

Delivering the welcome address, Editorial Director of *The New Indian Express*, Prabhu Chawla, highlighted that *TNIE* is the only newspaper in the country to have sustained a high-quality conclave on education for the last 13 years. He attributed this achievement to innovation and values such as prioritising India and Bharat. "In the world of market, where valuations are becoming more important, we are all devoted to the values of Bharat," he said. He further added that education is not commerce alone, but a value-building exercise for the newspaper.

Recalling the conclave's journey, Chawla noted that it has hosted over 500 speakers and explored themes ranging from the Indianisation of education, entrepreneurship in education, and skilling students among others. He also cautioned against the excessive use of artificial intelligence, warning that it could diminish critical thinking and make people overly dependent on technology. He stressed the importance of finding the best ways to integrate modernity with traditional knowledge with our own inputs. A theme song created using Artificial Intelligence (AI) was also played during the inaugural session.

ThinkEdu Conclave 2025: NHRC Chairperson Critiques GANHRI's Accreditation Delay

<https://www.edexlive.com/news/2025/Jan/27/thinkedu-conclave-2025-nhrc-chairperson-critiques-ganhris-accreditation-delay>

"I think there is a fundamental flaw in their argument. If you have to assess an institution and give accreditation, you must assess its performance and not its DNA," said the NHRC Chairperson

Binita Jaiswal Published on: 27 Jan 2025, 1:11 pm

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) Chairperson Justice V Ramasubramanian raised strong objections to the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI) for deferring NHRC's accreditation during the inaugural session of the 13th ThinkEdu Conclave held on January 27, 2025.

Speaking on the topic 'Balancing the Scales: Rights, Duties and the Indian Soul,' moderated by Dinamani Editor Vaidyanathan, Justice Ramasubramanian addressed GANHRI's rationale for withholding NHRC's accreditation for the past two years. GANHRI, the apex certification body for national human rights institutions, cited NHRC's non-compliance with the Paris Principles of 1993.

"I think there is a fundamental flaw in their argument. If you have to assess an institution and give accreditation, you must assess its performance and not its DNA," said the NHRC Chairperson.

He further added, "If you assess the performance of NHRC and say that it is not up to the standard, we do not give you accreditation, I agree. But if you say that there is a congenital deformity in how you are born, then I think it's not about the accreditation of NHRC, but it is an accreditation of the government."

Justice Ramasubramanian acknowledged that resolving the delay in accreditation has been a major challenge since taking over as NHRC Chairperson a little over a month ago. Additionally, he highlighted the complexity of enforcing human rights in a country as diverse as India, which has people practising more than eight major religions worldwide, divided by 1,640 castes and communities, speaking more than 22 official languages, and having different ethnicities.

NHRC's Powers, Rights and Duties

In response to questions about whether NHRC is considered toothless, Justice Ramasubramanian disagreed, emphasising NHRC's power to inquire, investigate, and make recommendations.

“NHRC has powers equivalent to those of a civil court. We have the power to summon and enforce the attendance of witnesses. We have the power to record evidence if somebody does not turn up, we can follow the same steps as a civil court can enforce attendance. Therefore, it is not a toothless tiger,” said the Chairperson.

Talking about rights and duties, Justice Ramasubramanian said that historically all societies including India have been duty-conscious societies rather than right-conscious. But the course of history took a detour around the 20th century with a focus on rights.

“The debate of rights vs duty has again regained momentum and there is an increasing awareness that their duties to fellow human beings have become the focus worldwide. Without imbibing upon ourselves the duty to respect the rights of others, I think our rights will be put in jeopardy,” he said.

Prabhu Chawla Highlights ThinkEdu’s Legacy

Delivering the welcome address, Editorial Director of *The New Indian Express (TNIE)*, Prabhu Chawla, highlighted that TNIE is the only newspaper in the country to have sustained a high-quality conclave on education for the last 13 years.

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He urged the need to balance modernity with traditional knowledge, saying, “We must find the best ways to integrate modernity with traditional knowledge with our inputs”.

A theme song created using AI was also played during the inaugural session.

NHRC admits petition on mysterious deaths in J-K's Rajouri

<https://www.ptinews.com/story/national/nhrc-admits-petition-on-mysterious-deaths-in-j-k-s-rajouri/2233337>

NEW DELHI: The NHRC has admitted a petition filed by a Jammu-based RTI activist over the mysterious deaths of 17 people from three Scheduled Tribe families in a remote village in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district during the past one-and-a-half months.

In his petition to the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), Raman Sharma sought the statutory body's intervention to ensure "justice, relief and proactive measures to safeguard the rights and dignity of citizens in vulnerable areas".

Seventeen people, including 13 children, died under mysterious circumstances in Badhaal village between December 7 and January 19. The patients complained of fever, pain, intense sweating, nausea and loss of consciousness before dying within days of their admission to hospitals.

BIS recognizes DP AHTU's processes, awards IS-ISO-9001:2015 certification

<https://www.thestatesman.com/cities/bis-recognizes-dp-ahtus-processes-awards-is-iso-90012015-certification-1503391344.html>

For the achievements and performance by the Anti- Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU) of the Delhi Police's Crime Branch, an IS-ISO-9001:2015 certification from the Bureau of Indian Standard (BIS) has been awarded to the unit, recognizing their methods and procedures.

Statesman News Service | New Delhi | January 27, 2025 9:18 pm

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On Monday, Delhi Police Commissioner Sanjay Arora, in the presence of BIS officials, presented ISO certificate to AHTU Crime Branch officials, and lauded their achievements, while also motivated them to perform continuously.

The AHTU, which functions under Delhi Police's crime branch, was formed in 2014 and is a specialized unit to handle cases related to Human Trafficking, Kidnapping, Abduction, Missing Children, Unclaimed Children, Beggars, Child Labour, and also sexual abuse of children etc.

The matters handled by AHTU are monitored by **National Human Rights Commission**, Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Delhi Commission for Women and various courts including Delhi High Court and the Supreme Court of India.

According to police, the team under Vikram Singh, DCP Crime and ACP Arun Chauhan worked relentlessly for the last two months to create Standards of Operating Procedures (SOPs), prepare documentation and other tasks under the close supervision of senior officers.

Thereafter, the BIS official teams performed audits regarding the work process and procedure followed by AHTU, apart from inspection of records and also interacted with the police officials. After all the due process and thorough audit, the BIS granted IS-ISO-9001:2015 certification to the AHTU.

In the wake of continuous achievements and its performance, the AHTU team decided to obtain the certification of standardization of its work from the BIS.

Meanwhile, during the last five years, AHTU teams have recovered 1442 minor children including 1045 girls and 397 boys and also rescued 2013 adults, who were reported kidnapped or missing and reunited them with their family.

Last year, under guidance of Delhi Police chief, the unit traced 227 minors who had been kidnapped or missing, and reunited them with their parents. Further, 38 accused have also been apprehended and handed over to concerned police stations for further legal action.

NHRC Report: West Bengal–bordering Bangladesh, Bhutan & Nepal is a key trafficking hub where more than 50,000 girls are missing

<https://www.thefinancialworld.com/nhrc-report-west-bengal-bordering-bangladesh-bhutan-nepal-is-a-key-trafficking-hub-where-more-than-50000-girls-are-missing/>

Published Date: 27-01-2025 | 5:06 pm Satish Handa About the Author

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), India report reveals that criminal action against 23 persons involved in selling minor girls on a stamp paper in Rajasthan for physical abuse and sexual assault in various parts of the country as well as in abroad. The Commission suggested setting up in every State Anti-Human Trafficking Nodal Officer of the rank of the Secretary or Inspector General of Police for strict monitoring and coordination with the government i centre to take effective measures to curb the menace and also ensure the rehabilitation of the victims.

NHRC, India has observed that the practice of selling of girls in some communities in the country in the recent past, including minors, is still continuing and this practice requires to be curbed forthwith in totality requiring stringent steps be taken against such practices. The Commission also stated that girls were still being sold on stamp paper in few districts of Rajasthan and sent to Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Mumbai, Delhi and few Gulf countries in abroad subjected to physical abuse, torture and sexual assault in slavery and forced into the sex trade. The State Government confirmed the incident and said that a charge sheet was filed against the 23 accused and as many as seven girls among the victims of human trafficking were saved and rehabilitated in Nari Niketan Reform Homes.

The Commission further suggested the states as well as government in centre should spread awareness about the constitutional prohibition, preventing child prostitution and educate people about the selling of minor girls and their illegal marriage to eradicate such illegal practices and found that large number of such females forced into prostitution in red light area or working as Mumbai bar dance girls trafficked from Rajasthan or other parts in the country. The Commission has also asked the DGP, Maharashtra to extend help to police in Rajasthan or other states in this regard with a view to taking effective steps to prevent such incidents and ensure their repatriation to their original places and the State to ensure their rehabilitation helping to eradicate the menace of child prostitution and selling of minors for various evil purposes.

NHRC study revealed, West Bengal — bordering Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal is a key trafficking hub where more than 50,000 girls are found missing, which is the highest figure in the country. According to the latest national crime records, a female (whose real name has not been exposed) was sold to traffickers by her family after refusing an arranged marriage at the age of 16. She was handed over to a man in Kashmir

hundreds kilometers away being sexually abused, she is not the only case, more than 50,000 girls are missing in West Bengal alone, the highest figure in the country, there are more than 2,250 cases of human trafficking registered as per 2022 records, but the real figure is believed to be much higher. Many of the missing girls are trafficked through Kolkata, state capital of West Bengal and one of India's biggest cities, some into forced labour, others into prostitution. "They had beaten me up, kept me hungry for days, sexually abused me," many of the victims being sexually exploited in commercial sex in the country said in their breaking voice in emotion, speaking about this with tears in their eyes.

Information reveals, there are significant numbers of Nepali and Bangladeshi women and girls are also lured to India for sex trafficking with the false promise of a job. According to a member of the Commission, families often don't want to pursue the case once a missing girl is rescued. Poverty is a key cause in most cases. Moreover, there is a lack of awareness and a lack of adequate support in most of the cases. There are cases in which many young women were trapped by the illegal practice of bonded labour. There is a case, in which a young female working in a garment factory in neighbouring Bangladesh, when the family came in contact with a broker who promised to smuggle her into India for better paid garment factory, but after arriving in India, she was told the work at the factory was no longer available but that she could instead dance in a bar. Refusing that, and without income or shelter, she stayed with a man who offered a place to stay. "He abused and hit me, tore my clothes, assaulted me and after repeatedly sexually abused by him as well as by another two men who raped me several times in two weeks," she said with tears in her eyes.

एंटी ह्यूमन ट्रेफिकिंग यूनिट को मिला आईएस-आईएसओ सर्टिफिकेट

<https://jaihindjanab.com/anti-human-trafficking-unit-gets-is-iso-certificate/>

January 27, 2025 Team JHJ

मानव तस्करी रोकथाम के तरीकों और प्रक्रियाओं को बीआईएस ने किया प्रदान

new delhi news अपराध शाखा की एंटी ह्यूमन ट्रेफिकिंग यूनिट को ब्यूरो ऑफ इंडियन स्टैंडर्ड्स द्वारा आईएस-आईएसओ-9001:2015 सर्टिफिकेशन प्रदान किया गया है। यह प्रमाणपत्र यूनिट द्वारा मानव तस्करी, लापता बच्चों और अन्य संबंधित मामलों के समाधान में अपनाए गए उच्च मानकों और प्रक्रियाओं के लिए दिया गया है।

एंटी ह्यूमन ट्रेफिकिंग यूनिट, अपराध शाखा, सेक्टर-16, रोहिणी, दिल्ली, की स्थापना 10 मार्च 2014 को की गई थी। यह विशेष इकाई मानव तस्करी, अपहरण, लापता बच्चों, अनाथ बच्चों, भिखारियों, बाल श्रमिकों और यौन शोषण से जुड़े मामलों को संभालने के लिए गठित की गई थी। इसके कार्य **राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग**, दिल्ली बाल अधिकार संरक्षण आयोग, दिल्ली महिला आयोग और विभिन्न न्यायालयों द्वारा मॉनिटर किए जाते हैं। एचटीयू टीम ने पिछले 10 वर्षों की मेहनत और उपलब्धियों को मान्यता दिलाने के लिए अपने कार्य को मानकीकृत करने का निर्णय लिया। डीसीपी क्राइम विक्रम सिंह और एसीपी अरुण चौहान के नेतृत्व में टीम ने दो महीने तक कठोर परिश्रम कर ऑपरेटिंग प्रक्रियाओं को तैयार किया और उनका दस्तावेजीकरण किया।

बीआईएस अधिकारियों ने यूनिट की प्रक्रियाओं और दस्तावेजों की जांच, ऑडिट और पुलिस अधिकारियों से बातचीत की। विस्तृत ऑडिट के बाद, एचटीयू को आईएस-आईएसओ-9001:2015 सर्टिफिकेट प्रदान किया गया।

पुलिस आयुक्त संजय अरोड़ा ने बीएसआई अधिकारियों की उपस्थिति में अल्लव को करड प्रमाणपत्र प्रदान किया। उन्होंने टीम की सराहना करते हुए उनके समर्पण और पेशेवर दृष्टिकोण की प्रशंसा की और उन्हें इसी उत्साह से काम करने के लिए प्रेरित किया। इस अवसर पर, उन्होंने एचटीयू द्वारा बचाए गए बच्चों और उनके परिवारों से भी मुलाकात की।

प्रमुख कार्य

लावारिस बच्चों, भिखारियों और बाल श्रमिकों का बचाव एवं पुनर्वास।

रेड लाइट क्षेत्रों में छापेमारी कर नाबालिग लड़कियों को यौन शोषण से बचाना।

औद्योगिक क्षेत्रों में छापेमारी कर बाल श्रमिकों को मुक्त कराना।

संगठित बाल भिक्षावृत्ति में शामिल गिरोहों पर निगरानी।

‘आॅपरेशन मिलाप’ और ‘मुस्कान’ के तहत बच्चों के घर-घर जाकर सत्यापन और पुनर्मिलन।

उपलब्धियां

2014 में स्थापना के बाद से एएचटीयू ने हजारों लापता बच्चों को ढूंढकर उनके परिवारों से मिलाया है। पिछले पांच वर्षों में 1,442 नाबालिग (1,045 लड़कियां और 397 लड़के) और 2,013 वयस्कों को बरामद कर उनके परिवारों को सौंपा गया।

2024 में एएचटीयू ने 227 लापता बच्चों को ढूंढा, जिनमें से 89 बच्चे दिल्ली के बाहर विभिन्न राज्यों से बरामद किए गए। इन मामलों के समाधान से 150 से अधिक एफआईआर का निपटारा हुआ और 38 आरोपियों को गिरफ्तार किया गया।

NHRC notice to state, Centre for ATR on suicide Odisha farmers

<https://www.thestatesman.com/india/nhrc-notice-to-state-centre-for-atr-on-suicide-odisha-farmers-1503391257.html>

With farmers committing suicide allegedly due to crop loss and debt-related issues resurfacing across Odisha in the recent past, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has asked the Centre and State to furnish Action Taken Reports (ATRs) within six weeks to arrest the disturbing trend.

Statesman News Service | Bhubaneswar | January 27, 2025 6:20 pm

With farmers committing suicide allegedly due to crop loss and debt-related issues resurfacing across Odisha in the recent past, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has asked the Centre and State to furnish Action Taken Reports (ATRs) within six weeks to arrest the disturbing trend.

The apex rights panel, taking cognizance of human rights lawyer Radhakanta Tripathy plea, asked both the state and Central agencies to ensure steps for the amelioration of farmers' woes in the state.

It may be recalled here that a series of deaths of farmers mostly due to crop loss and loan repayment issues had hogged the spotlight a unseasonal rains in Odisha in December had aggravated their miseries, with ten deaths reported from different parts of the State from December 25, 2024 till January 4, 2025.

In the line of fire for alleged insensitivity towards farmers' plight, Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on 3 January declared the unseasonal rain in December 2024 a natural calamity. The government's announcement was intended to facilitate the disbursement of compensation to farmers for crop damage due to the untimely weather event from the state disaster response fund (SDRF).

A petition filed in this regard by Tripathy alleged that delay in assessment of crop loss and payment of compensation are the main causes of the farmer suicides. It sought an intervention of the Commission and an independent national inquiry on the death cases across the country, prompt and effective implementation of the farmer's welfare schemes, MSP like mechanisms, mental health and counseling services etc.

“Let a copy of the complaint be transmitted to the secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, the chief secretary, government of Odisha, and the director general, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, government of India, through online mode, to ensure the needful actions and submit their action taken

reports, including monetary and other reliefs paid to the victim's family, within six weeks", the Commission stated in the order.

It is requested that an Action Taken Report (ATR) be sent to the Commission within six weeks from the date of receipt of this letter, the order concluded.