



NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

INDIA

STRATEGIC PLAN

2022-2025

Website : www.nhrc.nic.in

Foreword

I am pleased to present the National Human Rights Commission's Strategic Plan for 2022-2025.

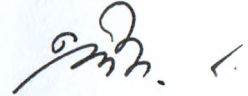
The Strategic Plan seeks to provide cohesive and holistic guidelines for the Commission to effectively work towards protection and promotion of Human Rights for the next three years.

The purpose of this plan is to ensure that the Human Rights are upheld and enjoyed by all, irrespective of their backgrounds or categories. The National Human Rights Commission will particularly aim to work in areas where any deprivation of Human Rights occurs. The Strategic Plan prioritises the current challenging areas and apporions issues confronted during the planned period requiring urgent attention.

Though, Human Rights are a shared set of rights and responsibilities, the National Human Rights Commission specifically takes on the role in ensuring that it comes to fruition and achieve the Commission's ultimate objective of "Sarve Bhawantu Sukhinah" i.e. "Let all be Happy".

The Strategic Plan has been formulated after careful consideration, extensive deliberations and active consultations with various stakeholders. The Plan underlines the Commission's vision, goals and aspirations.

I would also like to take this opportunity to offer my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has sincerely worked towards shaping this Strategic Plan. With our joint efforts, we will accomplish our goals and come closer to realising our mission.


(Mr. Justice Arun Mishra)
Chairperson, NHRC, India

New Delhi

Date: 7/11/2022

OUR VISION AND MISSION

VISION

The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) dedicates itself to protect and promote the rights relating to life, liberty, equality and dignity of every individual as guaranteed by the Constitution of India and as embodied in the International Covenants enforceable by courts in India.

MISSION

To protect and promote Human Rights by:

- Creating awareness among citizens regarding their rights and duties
- Strengthening the inclusive framework for the NHRC, SHRCs, State and Non-State Actors to work together for the promotion and protection of Human Rights of all sections of society
- Enquiring into complaints of violation of Human Rights and/or negligence in preventing such violations by a public servant to safeguard the Human Rights of the victims and awarding compensation whenever violations occur
- Studying treaties, international instruments on Human Rights, different legislation and government policy documents and making recommendations to Governments for their effective implementation
- Alleviating the problems and sufferings of the marginalised communities like Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Women, Children and the LGBTQIA+ by ensuring that the benefits of the social welfare schemes of the Government of India are availed by them

FUNCTIONS

The National Human Rights Commission has the following key functions:-

- To bridge the gap between responsibilities of the State and the rights of individuals
- To intervene in any judicial proceeding involving allegations of violation of Human Rights pending before a Court
- To protect Human Rights and recommend measures for their effective implementation
- To monitor and evaluate the factors, including acts of terrorism that curtail the enjoyment of Human Rights and recommend appropriate remedial measures
- To study treaties and other international instruments
- To enquire into complaints of violation of Human Rights
- To conduct research in the field of Human Rights
- To spread Human Rights literacy and awareness
- To encourage the efforts of Non-Governmental Organisations and Human Rights Defenders
- Assessment of developments in areas like IT, sports, business etc. impinging on Human Rights protection
- To perform any such functions as it may consider necessary for the promotion of Human Rights as provided in 12 (j), Chapter III, of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993

APPROACH IN FORMULATING THE STRATEGIC PLAN DOCUMENT

The Strategic Plan 2022-2025 is the result of an extensive participatory engagement amongst all the stakeholders, including in-house deliberations. The critical elements of this process involved the following:

- The Commission's experience over the last two decades in general and last five years including the pandemic
- The Human Rights jurisprudence that has evolved in the last 25 years due to interventions and decisions of the Commission while handling complaints of Human Rights violations
- Emerging Human Rights issues in India
- Vision of stakeholders, including the Governments and their agencies, State Human Rights Commissions, civil society, domain experts, Human Rights Defenders etc.

STRATEGIC PLAN

PRIORITY AREAS

- a. Health including mental health
- b. Environment, Climate Change and Human Rights
- c. Business and Human Rights
- d. Women and Children
- e. Police and Prison Reforms
- f. Education
- g. Labour
- h. Food and Nutrition
- i. Vulnerable Groups
- j. International Engagement and Obligations
- k. Human Rights Education and Research
- l. NGO/Civil society, Human Rights Defenders
- m. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The above-mentioned priority areas will specifically work on the aspects highlighted below:-

Health

- Ensuring access to safe, affordable and quality health care services and medicines
- Mental Health
- Conditions of hospitals (quality of services and conditions of health establishments including mental hospitals)
- HIV-AIDS, Silicosis and Substance Abuse
- Good health and well-being

Environment, Climate Change & Human Rights

- Conventional and non-conventional energy and impact on employment
- Ensuring remedial and preventive measures as to climate and environmental degradation impacting Human Rights
- Conducting environmental and climate impact assessments
- Ensuring implementation of the advisory issued by the NHRC
- Spreading awareness
- Climate action and impact on employment and to provide alternative employment.

Business and Human Rights

- In its work towards providing a healthy environment for all, NHRC will take proactive measures in recommending the government(s) to issue timely guidelines and directions to the business houses
- Extensive referral from the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights

Women and Children

- Eradicating all forms of violence and discrimination against women and children
- Ensuring Right to Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) especially that of women
- Reproductive health of women
- Eliminating child pornography
- Juvenile Justice
- Shelter homes
- Human Trafficking
- Special training programmes for gender sensitisation

Police and Prison Reform

- Eradication of torture
- Ensuring fair investigation of each and every death in police custody and judicial custody
- Comprehensive modules for training of police
- Access to fair and speedy justice (free legal aid)
- Reduction of undertrial prisoners in correction homes

Education

- Inclusion of issues pertaining to Human Rights in school/college curriculums
- Promoting a better understanding of Human Rights through training camps, seminars, internship programmes etc.

Labour

- Eradication of Begaar (unpaid labour) and all forms of bonded labour without payment of due wages
- Safety of workers engaged in hazardous activities
- Informal and migrant workers
- Ending child labour

Food and Nutrition

- Right to Food
- Nutritional food for lactating mothers and children
- Food adulteration
- Ending hunger

Vulnerable Groups

- LGBTQIA+
- Schedules Castes
- Scheduled Tribes and their forest rights
- Internally displaced persons
- Rights of Minorities
- Other Backward Classes
- Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- Protection and Welfare of Elderly Persons
- Victims of Human Trafficking

NGOs, Civil Society, and Human Rights Defenders

- To identify Human Rights Defenders as individuals or groups who act to promote, protect or strive for the protection and realization of Human Rights and fundamental freedoms through peaceful means
- To recognise the key role of Human Rights Defenders (HRD) and civil society and encourage their work
- Capacity building of the HRDs, NGOs

International Engagement and Obligations

- To enhance cooperation with other countries and work in tandem for protection of Human Rights
- To deepen engagement, NHRC would participate in various meetings of APF, GANHRI and Human Rights Council to understand its mechanism and adoption; visit other countries for exchange of best practices and also to assist and cooperate with the Special Rapporteurs of UN and submit comments/response on draft Resolution Report, etc.

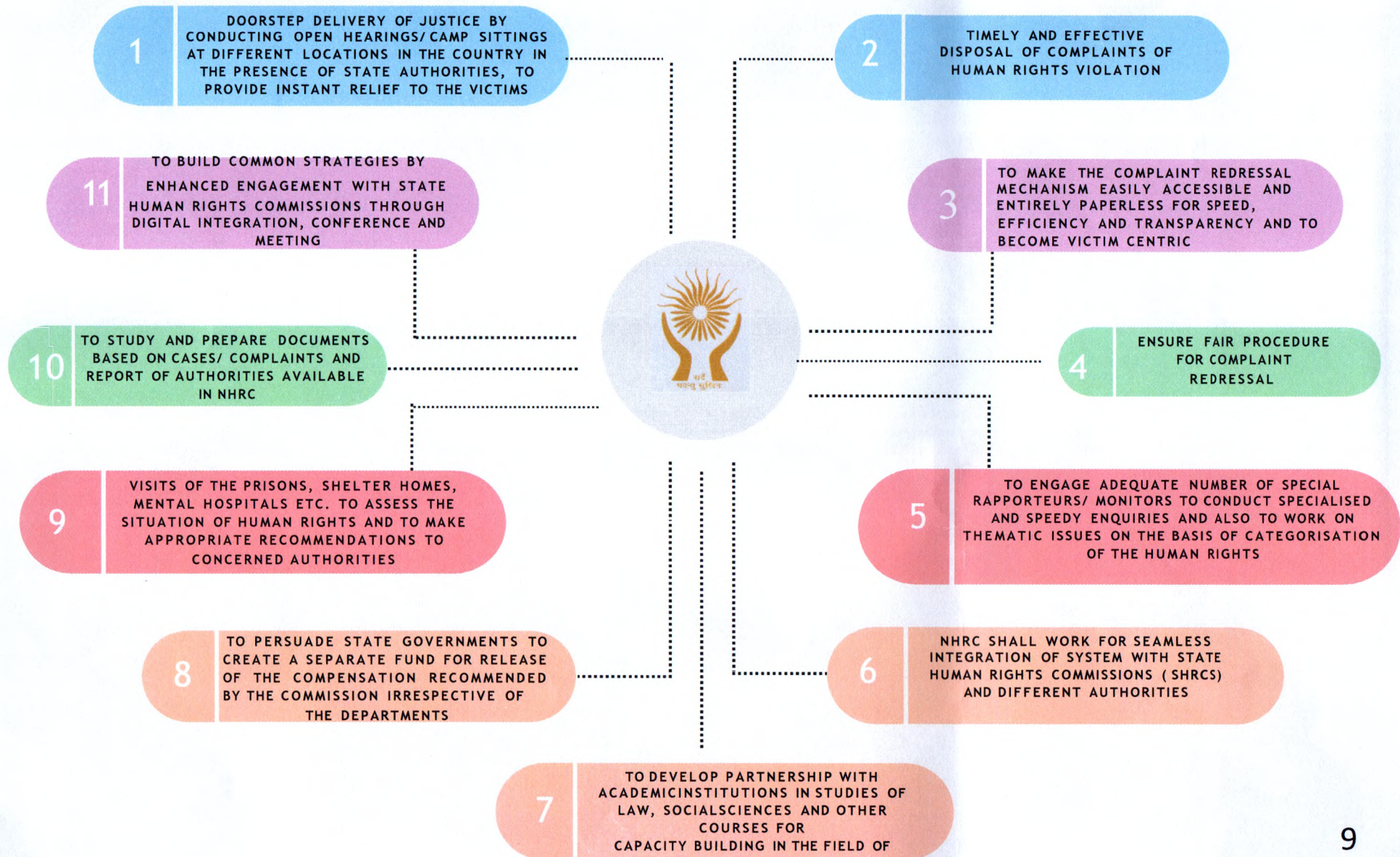
Human Rights Education and Research

- Identification of gaps in various statutes, policies and programs having an impact on Human Rights and issue advisories to state authorities to fill up these gaps
- Research projects on various aspects
- Awareness
- Life, liberty and dignity of individuals

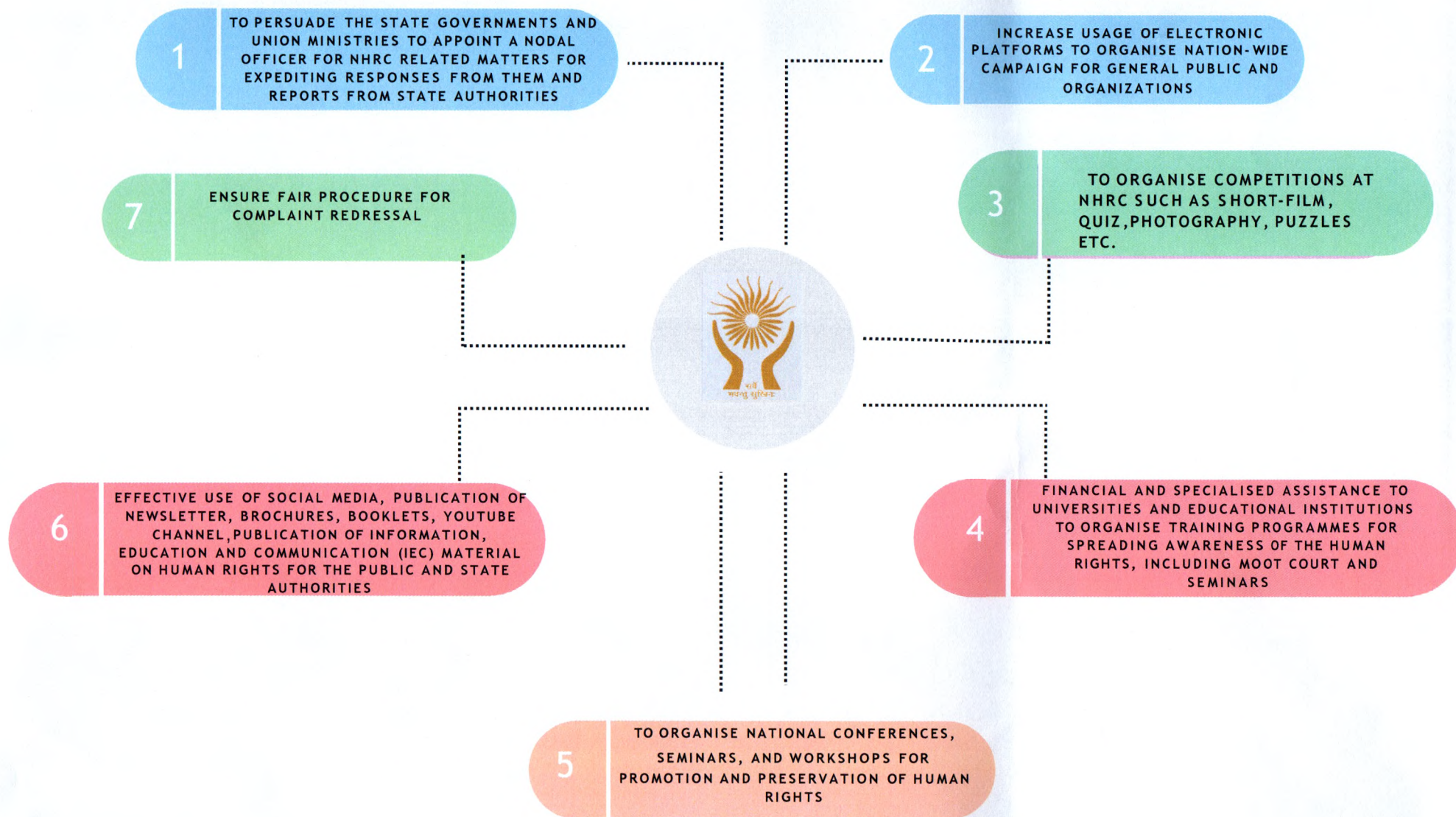
OUTCOMES

- Efficient disposal of complaints of Human Rights violations
- Reduction in manual intervention and introduction of 24X7 online system of complaint redressal mechanism. The Commission was functional 24X7 even during the lock down during the Covid-19 pandemic
- Recognition of NHRC initiatives and work at the regional, national and international level
- Increased awareness especially among youth and in rural areas *about Human Rights*
- Reduction in incidents of Human Rights violations
- Partnerships and collaboration with other stakeholders
- Effective engagement and cooperation at international level and exchange of best practices
- Expanding areas of activities and collaborations
- Promotion and protection of Human Rights for all
- Excellence of employees at NHRC

FOR PROTECTION & PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS



FOR PROMOTION & ADVOCACY OF HUMAN RIGHTS



MEASURES TO BE TAKEN BY THE COMMISSION

