

Technical assistance and Capacity Building for Fostering Mutually Beneficial Cooperation in Promoting and Protecting Human Rights

Early Initiatives

- NHRC undertook a threefold strategy in pursuit of its responsibilities under Section 12(h) of its statute:-
- First, it solicited the support of the leadership of all political parties represented in Parliament or the State Legislatures, to constitute Human Rights Cells at the Centre, State and District levels.
- Second, it wrote to Chief Ministers of all States/Union Territories, to sensitize and impart appropriate training in human rights matters, to all public servants in their respective areas.
- Third, it initiated a dialogue at the central level with the concerned educational authorities of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, and its associated institutions at the Centre and State levels, to pursue the matter of human rights education at various levels of schooling.

Promotion of Good Custodial Practices

- NHRC-India in partnership with the British Council and an NGO undertook a project on 'Promoting Good Custodial Practices'.
- The project aimed to create links between a range of different agencies including human rights activists, doctors, lawyers and the police to reduce torture and increase awareness about legal rights and remedies for torture victims.

Human Rights Awareness and Facilitating Assessment of Enforcement of Human Rights Programme

- NHRC-India has undertaken this programme in 28 districts of the country covering every State.
- The variables on which these backward districts have been identified are:
 - Rate of illiteracy
 - Percentage of SC/ST population

- Rate of infant mortality, etc
- The main objective of the programme is to spread awareness among the people on focused human rights issues like:
 - Food security
 - Education
 - Custodial justice
 - Health
 - Hygiene, Sanitation, etc
- Field visits are undertaken by the Members/officers to assess human right situation at the ground level.
- A one-day workshop is organized in the district concerned to enlighten people about their rights as well as monitor the implementation of the recommendations issued by the Commission from time to time.

NHRC's Recommendations for Good Governance

1. Sharing and Adoption of Best Practices amongst the States/UTs
2. Maximize Governance and Minimize Government
3. Dovetail Technology in Good Governance Initiatives and in Promotion of Human Rights
4. Swach Bharat Abhiyan
5. Participatory Decision Making: Including People in Decision Making Loop
6. Good Governance Should not be an Exception but it should be a Rule of Law
7. Benchmark for Service Delivery
8. Role of Media and Civil Society including NGOs in Raising Awareness of Good Governance Initiatives
9. Effective Implementation of Laws
10. Speedy Redressal of Grievances through Single Window System
11. Combating Corruption
12. Improvement of Health Care and Infrastructure

13. Need for Focus on Quality Education
14. Engaging the youths in providing necessary assistance for assuring good governance
15. A data bank of knowledge base system consisting of all government development projects must be created.
16. There should be effective vigilance committees at the State, District and Taluka levels to identify, rescue, release, rehabilitate and reintegrate bonded and child labourers into society.
17. Gender sensitization shall be done to create awareness about the importance of gender sensitivity in organizations, to make the participants understand the measures an organization can take to become gender sensitive and to develop gender sensitivity of participants.
18. There is a need for developing knowledge economy, enhance infrastructure and capacity building- training of administrative staff at all levels.
19. Corporate houses have enormous resources – they should also make efforts to protect and promote good governance initiatives under the scheme of Corporate
20. There is an urgent need for checks and balances in our functionality of our institutional mechanisms for preventing fraud, misconduct, criminality and corruption.
21. Social audits identify the potential and existing beneficiaries to evaluate the implementation of a program by comparing official records with ground realities. Social audit helps in identification of accurate documents, prioritization of developmental activities, check proper utilization of funds, and confirm the development activity with the stated goals and guarantee quality of service essential for good governance.
22. There should be the spread of general awareness that police is a service; the general perception that it is a force needs to change. Police does not violate human rights of people and people should not be scared to go to the police.
23. There is a need to put in Intelligent Transportation Systems referring to the use of technology (computing, communications, and sensors) to optimize the movement of vehicles over transport networks.
24. Cleanliness and sanitation through public participation and making all departments accountable for maintaining high standards of cleanliness.

25. A quantum improvement would come only when the Executive, Judiciary, and Legislature would work collectively for promoting good governance and protecting human rights which enables time bound implementation of good governance initiatives and timely disposal of common man's grievances - fix timelines and standardized procedures.