

ROLE OF NGOS IN PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS.

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Abstract

Many organizations in the universe devote their efforts to protecting human rights and ending infringement of human rights or abuse of human rights. Number of human rights organizations maintain extensive websites documenting violations and calling for corrective action, both at a governmental and grass-roots level. Public support and condemnation of abuses is important to their success, as human rights organizations are most effective when their calls for reform are backed by strong public advocacy.

In the era of Proliferation and with the development of the one global society it felt compulsory to confirm the liability in respect of an assurance of Human Rights in state boundaries. Despite the United Nations and Regional arrangements for the same it is impossible to have a clear picture of the status of the state's obligation. Civil Society has areas which possess an area equal to but aloof from the state where citizens relate in accordance with their own interest where impartial or detached bodies are required for proper watch on each and every thing. NGOs contribute and play by far the dynamic, positive and active parts of civil society organizations. The flourishing growth Non Government Organizations over the past three decades have given them seldom important role and function and led them to occupy a distinctive sector within the broad category Civil society organizations.. Today it is believed that without the active involvement of NGOs the UN human rights system would not function well. The activities of human rights NGOs are numerous.. To build a culture of rights and encourage the enforcement of human rights both at national and international level, an approach described above has a great contribution besides the efforts of the Government.

Key Words: Human Rights, Infringement, Protection, NGOs, Activism

INTRODUCTION

“The evolution of the human rights movement clearly illustrates humanity’s ongoing struggle toward creating a better world.”– Robert Alan

¹Human rights as the ‘Rights relating to life, liberty, equality, and dignity of individuals guaranteed by the constitution or embodied in international covenants and enforceable by the courts in India’

The concept of non-governmental or, more precisely non-profit is usually characterized used to cover the particular aspects of organizations make up civil society. Such organizations are defined, generally, such organizations are having their purpose or purposes other than making profit. However, this leaves a huge myriad of reasons for presence and a wide variety of enterprises and its activities. Non Government Organizations dimension from small groups of persons on, for example, in a specific environmental concerns or specific human rights violations, through educational charities, women's refuges, cultural associations, religious organizations, legal foundations, humanitarian assistance programs. The Economic and Social Council may make applicable arrangements for deliberation with nongovernmental organizations which are connected with matters within its competence. Such preparation may be made with international organizations and, where appropriate, with national organizations after consultation with the Member of the United Nations concerned.

Non Government Organization plays pivot role to play in the promotion and protection of human right specifically in the developing country, has the largest number of NGO’s whose activates are spread in different parts for the welfare of human being including the promotion and protection of human right.

NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

Cool Earth

Cool Earth also refers to a Japanese program generally called the “Cool Earth Partnership,” inaugurated in 2007. This is an International non-governmental organization that is came into existence to protect It is a UK based international non-governmental organization that protects threatened rainforest to overcome the issue of global warming, to provide sustainable jobs for local local community and protect ecosystems.. Cool Earth protects and secures rainforest under imminent threat of destruction, working with other NGOs.

¹ <http://www.legalservicesindia.com/article/1275/Realization-of-Human-Rights-and-Role-of-NGO.htm>

Legal Resources Centre

It is an another Human Rights Organization established in South Africa and its offices is at Johannesburg, inclusive with Constitutional Litigation Unit, Cape Town, Durban and Grahams town.

Amnesty international

It is an important and well known International Nongovernmental organization established in the year 1961 . Amnesty International more than 2.5 million subscribers to support for and fight against deprivation of human rights and protection of human rights. Irene Khan is the present secretary general of this organization. Today, the authorization of **Amnesty International** is considerably wider than it was in the inception. It deals with a wide range of violations of physical integrity. It is more concerned with long-term preventative measures, rather than offering immediate assistance to the victims of human rights violations rights.

Human Rights Foundation

The Human Rights Foundation is a non-profit organization whose stated mission “is to ensure that freedom is both preserved and promoted” in the Americas. Its definition of human rights focuses on the essential ideals of freedom of self-determination and freedom from tyranny and the rights of property The Human Rights Foundation is a non-profit organization that describes itself as promoting and protecting human rights universally, with a focal points on closed societies. HRF organizes the Oslo Freedom Forum. The said organization is founded by Thor Halvorsen in the year 2005. The Head quarters of the same are located in New York, United States.

The Fred Hollows Foundation

It is a non-profit, community-based, non-government development aid organization that concentrates on treating and preventing blindness and other vision problems. It operates in Australia, The Pacific, South and South East Asia, and Africa.

Role of NGO at national level in protecting human right

Non Government Organizations Plays a crucial role in the developmental factor as a service provider to the society at large. In the field of development sector, many NGO's have come forward and took an initiative to fill up the gap for building capacity. For example Sulabh Movement is a social movement in the country for the welfare and well beings of the in respect of Dalit community.

Sulabh Movement: It is a major social movement in the country for the betterment and welfare of Dalits, at a universal level and in particular for the abolishing of scavengers and to bring them in to a main stream of the society.

Child Relief and You (CRY): It is a voluntary organisation committed to the exhilaration of children who have been deprived of their childhood due to various reasons. The

The barnstorm against child labour is a joint drive of 'Youth for Voluntary Action (YUVA)', 'Pune and Tere des Hommes' (Germany) India Programme. The Campaign is presently supported by International Labour Organisation and is working with a full force for progressive elimination of child labour through provisions of education, organizing awareness campaign promotion of legislative changes and extricate children in bondage.. Some other organisations like **Chetna** and **Saheli** putting their positive and efforts in the protection and promotion of rights of women which includes free legal aid to women to fight for their rights against gender bias and discrimination. Protection from domestic violence and child abuse etc.

Butterflies are an Non Government Organization initiated and came up with a programme for street and working children. It was started in 1988 and its activities include non-formal education, saving schemes for children, vocational training, holding Bal Sabhas, and creating awareness for children's rights, Bal Mazdoor Union, networking with other NGOs and research and documentation.

SUPPORT is a charitable Trust with over two decades of uncompromising dedication to rehabilitation and mainstreaming of substance-abusing street children and homeless youth in Mumbai. It is one of the very few organisations in India offering residential rehabilitation program for drug using street children/ Youth. It aims to eradicate substance use among street children and homeless youth to prevent high risk behavior

Ramakrishna Mission Home of Service:

This NGO is established in Varanasi in the year 1900 and it becomes a branch of Ramakrishna Mission in the year 1902. This mission is associated and related with the program like, an education program on essential health problems in schools, slums and villages of Uttar Pradesh

People's Union for Civil Liberties:

It is a prominent civil rights organization in India. It was formed in 1976 by veteran socialist and campaign leader Jaya Prakash Narayan, who launched it as the People's Union for Civil Liberties and Democratic Rights

(PUCLDR), it Was originally intended to be an organization free from political ideologies, bringing those concerned about defending civil liberties and human rights from different backgrounds onto a common platform.

2^{PEOPLE'S UNION FOR DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS}

This came into existence in the year 1976-77 as the Delhi unit of a larger national forum, and became PUDR on 1 February, 1981. In the last two and a half decades of its existence the organisation has taken up hundreds of instances of violations of democratic rights, covering most parts of the country and involving the rights of many sections of society. PUDR conducts investigations, issues statements, distributes leaflets, organizes public meetings, demonstrations and dharnas, and fights legal cases to highlight the violation of people's rights, and to help towards their redressal. PUDR also takes up issues of general importance that affect the rights of people through general campaigns, publications and legal interventions. These include: gender equality; rights of forest-dwellers and forest policy; working class rights; agrarian conflict; caste oppression; deaths, rapes and torture in police custody; and undemocratic legislation, in particular the various incarnations of the 'terrorist act' (TADA and POTA) etc.

BANDHUA MUKTI MORCHA

Bandhua Mukti Morcha (BMM) or Bonded Labour Liberation Front (BLLF) is again a non-governmental organisation in India working to last the bonded labour. It is Based in New Delhi, and it was established in the year 1981 by the hands of Swami Agnivesh who was the chairman of the same . Bonded labour was legally eliminated from India in 1976 but is was not fully abolished or outrage. Estimates of the problem depends upon the circumstances of the cases. A major problem with the boded child labour in the silk industry was reported by 'Human Right Watch' which leads to abolishing of child labour form India by introducing and passing of legislation to abolish child labour in India through 'Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation Act 1986)'

Role of NGOs in protecting Human Right through Judiciary and National Human Rights Commission.

Unless there is a positive and supportive response from the judicial official or judiciary Non -governmental organization cannot function as desired. .NGOs plays an adaptive role in the protection and development of human rights and a right to life guided under article 14 of Indian Constitution . An assistance and guidance or advice or counseling is done with the help of the reputed and well known human rights activists.

For promotion and protection of human rights Non Government Organisation have filled cases , writ petitions, PIL that is public Interest Litigation on behalf of victim and /or on behalf of victim. The NGOs have fought against the system of bonded lab our, fake encounters by police, protection of women children's rights, custodial violence and custodial death, prevention of torture and other in human practices. The judiciary has passed appropriate order and given compensation to the victims on a petition by the NGOs. The National Human Rights Commission encourages NGOs in the of human rights. The NGOs also take up cases of violation to the NHRC and state human rights commissions.

Role as ' Social Wrokar' - Charity is an important and key action which expected from where relief and charity are key actions from the NGO. NGOs in this role can be seen as initiating internal based programs and various live projects.

Role as 'Mediator' - In this social action communication skill is an important role plays under it for development and promotion and active participation in exercising this rights.. NGOs in this role can be seen as participating or taking up external programs and projects.

Role as 'Consultant'. - Local expert plays secondary important role in supply of information through collaborative programme. Non Governmental Organization plays a vital role in respect of dissemination of information..

ADVOCACY FOR AND WITH THE POOR

In some of the cases Non Governmental Organization can act as ombudsmen for the needy and poor community and makes possible to influence state policies and development on their behalf. Pilot project is proved to be an important in this respect, by arranging or organizing public talk and to get involved the community in it. It is possible only through formulation of government policy and plans, to make research accessible to the public.. Thus NGOs play roles from advocates for the poor to implementers of government programs; from agitators and critics to partners and advisors; from sponsors of pilot projects to mediators.

² <http://www.legalservicesindia.com/article/1275/Realization-of-Human-Rights-and-Role-of-NGO.htm>

Role of NGO at International level in protecting human right.

'Amnesty International was awarded a Nobel Prize to Peace in 1977' At the International Level Amnesty International is one of the known organization (NGO) works to improve and protect the status of human rights. This Organization is dedicated to publishing infringement of human rights, particularly freedom of speech and religion and right of political dissent. It also works for the release of political prisoners and, when necessary, for the relief of their families. For its commendable services in the field of human rights, Amnesty International are some important case studies in respect of Protection of Human Rights by the help of Judiciary.

- Vishaka V/s State of Rajasthan & Ors
- Bandhua Mukti Morcha vs Union Of India & Ors (16 December 1983)
- Saheli V/S Commissioner of Police
- Union for Democratic Rights V/s Police commissioner Delhi, head quarters 1989 4 SCC 730.
- Peoples' Union For Democratic Rights V. State Of Bihar & Ors (19 December 1986)

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Peace, development and human rights are essentially inter-related, inter-dependent and indivisible." – Theo van Boven

NGO mobilize public opinion and contributes a lot to the society by pressurizing the government on certain issues, such as protection of prisoners rights, torture etc. They approach the judiciary on behalf of poor people who otherwise have no access to justice and ask for submission of certain reports and play a special role especially in the developing countries for the development of human rights. The Non Governmental organizations work from elemental level to the national and international level in the protection of human rights. NGO plays a role like a voice of the community as most of the community are not able to express their views and opinion about the things. With the help of judiciary or by hand to hand cooperation with judiciary to achieve the goal. Each and every human is designated to have certain basic human rights which are accessible to them without fear or frown and some sort of human rights are protected by the United Nations and its agencies.

In India human rights are protected and saved by the judiciary, human rights commissions, besides it these organizations the Non Governmental organizations also have an important role in protection of human rights as discussed above.

Frequent programme in respect of awareness of human rights should be initiated by the NGO rather than yearly or bimonthly NGOs also need to get more aid both from foreign and within India which will be useful to carry out their cause. NGO should define their area of activities or goal for protection or promotion of the human rights or to achieve their immediate goal. A strategic thinking should be applied wherever possible on a long term basis. Every NGO must have their own ideas and clear goes including priorities to be achieved along with the work plan for individual and staff activities.