

Human Rights NGOs in Jammu and Kashmir: Role and Functions

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ABSTRACT

NGOs are non-profit organisations constituted with an aim to uplift the poor, marginalized, underprivileged, impoverished and the downtrodden groups of the society. They participate actively in various political, economical and social matters and work on their own, in conjunction with individual governments or with international organizations. These groups exhibit how the village and indigenous resources can be used and how human resources, rural skills and local knowledge, grossly underutilized at present can be used for their own development. The nation states across the world take numerous steps and programmes for the protection and promotion of human rights. The NGOs also help the governments in this venture. The grassroot contacts of the NGOs can effectively identify the human rights violations, articulate them and help the governments to prevent them. Here comes the importance of the human rights NGOs. These are the NGOs that specifically aim at the protection of human rights. They take effective measures to reduce the rate of human rights violations. A large number of human rights NGOs are working at the national and the international levels to help the governments to formulate policies and programmes for preventing the grave human rights violations. The universe of the human rights NGOs is highly diverse and all may not share the same common vision. The techniques adopted by the NGOs include information gathering, evaluation and dissemination of human rights violation, advocacy, developing human rights norms and lobbying, legal aids and humanitarian relief, building solidarity etc. In terms of the human rights, the NGOs were associated with providing information, rather than expertise in the past. Now they frequently provide both. This paper discusses the role and functions of human rights NGOs in Jammu and Kashmir.

1. Introduction

The role played by the Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) is vital in articulating and enforcing the international human rights standards. They are self-governing, private, non profit organizations that are geared towards improving the quality of life of the disadvantaged people. They often lobby on national and international levels for strengthened human rights standards. They also take care to document and publicize the violations of these standards. The NGOs have been instrumental in achieving legal reforms as the platforms for social change. Besides these, they have played important roles in recognizing the women's rights as human rights. Despite their diversities, the NGOs can be broadly defined as independent voluntary association[s] of people, acting together on a continuous basis for some common purpose, other than achieving government office, making money or illegal activities.

Today, the violation of human rights has become a global phenomenon. There are several mechanisms for preventing human rights violations and for protecting the human rights. The United Nations (UN) and the governments of all nations have taken a number of steps and programmes for the prevention of human rights violations. In this respect, the NGOs also play a very significant role. The human rights NGOs often publish reports, condemning the human rights violations and adopt policies and programmes to disseminate the human rights ideals. The primary goals of the human rights NGOs are 'monitoring and reporting the government behaviour on human rights violations, building pressures and creating international

machinery to end the violations and make the governments accountable' (Forsythe 1977). In India, Kashmir is notorious for human rights violations and abuses. Kashmir dispute is the focal point of the human rights violations and the abuses such as terrorism, extra judicial killing, involuntary disappearance, arbitrary detention, rape, torture etc. (AI 2015) Several international, national and local NGOs function in Kashmir, and they have taken many humanitarian steps to restore peace in this region.

2. Human Rights NGOs in India

NGOs are broadly classified into international, national and local NGOs. An International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) has the same mission as a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) functioning at the national level, but it is international in scope and has outposts around the world to deal with the specific issues in many countries. The main focus of the INGOs is to provide relief and developmental aid to the developing countries¹. In relation to the States, the purpose of INGOs is to provide services that the State is unable or unwilling to provide for their people. Many international projects and advocacy initiatives promoted by the INGOs encourage sustainable development via a human rights approach and capability approach. The INGOs that promote the human rights advocacy, try to set up an international human rights standard that respects the rights of every human being and promotes the empowerment of the disadvantaged communities (Navlakha 2002). Likewise, the organizations

such as the International Justice Mission, works in accordance with an effective and legitimate judicial system and it enhance a country's legitimacy and development. Most of the other INGOs engaged in promoting micro-financing and education, attempts to improve the capabilities of the citizens and the communities by developing skills and the human capital². It also tries to promote citizen empowerment and community involvement.

The Major INGOs at the global arena are Cooperative for Assistance and Relief Everywhere (CARE), Oxfam, World Vision International, The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD) etc. The health related INGOs include the Doctors without Borders, the Health Right International, the International Committee of the Red Cross, etc. The INGOs engaged in child advocacy are the Compassion International, Save the Children International, SOS Children's Villages, Reggio Children Foundation, World Organization of the Scout Movement etc. The INGOs for protecting the human rights are the Amnesty International, International Federation for Human Rights, Friends of Peoples Close to Nature, Survival International, Common wealth Human Rights Initiative etc. The INGOs for protecting the environment are International POPs Elimination Network, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Greenpeace, World Wide Fund for Nature etc. (Ahmed 2001).

The National NGOs include the national organizations such as the Red Cross, Young Men's Christian Associations (YMCAs)/ Young Women's Christian Associations (YWCA's), Peoples' Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL), Peoples' Union for Democratic Rights (PUDR), Community Support Concern (CSC), the Centre for Education and Communication etc. Some of them have branches at the State and the city levels and assist the local NGOs as well. The local NGOs include those organizations which work in a particular area. Their focus is on particular region or area. The Association for Social Health in India (ASHI), the Human Welfare Foundation (HWF), the JK Developmental Action Group (JKDAG), the Kishtwar Child Welfare (KCW), the Catholic Social Service Society (CSSS), the Manva Seva Society (MSS) etc. in Kashmir are examples (Singh 2003).

NGOs have a vital role to play in the promotion and protection of human right especially in countries like India where the NGO activities are spread in different fields for the welfare of the human beings. The Resolution number 38 of the world conference on human rights held at Vienna in Austria, in 1993, recognizes the important role of the NGOs in the promotion of all human rights and humanitarian assistance. Human rights NGOs in India are performing multiple functions related to human rights such as prevention of HIV/AIDS, training of vulnerable groups, child care, child exploitation, child labour, bonded labour, and providing counseling in a number of matters including domestic disputes, the rights of women and children and so on (Kataria 2013). Human rights NGOs are performing commendable intervention in the following areas which has received national recognition and scholarly appreciation.

One is the social welfare role of the NGOs, where the focus is for relief and charity. Such NGOs can be seen as initiating internal programmes and projects. Another role is the mediatory role, where communication as a skill is important for development and social action. The NGOs which function with

this goal can be seen as participating or taking up external programmes and projects. Some NGOs have the consultative role, where documentation and dissemination of information and expertise is critical. These kinds of NGOs can be seen as working in collaborative programs. Local experts/professionals/resource persons play major secondary roles. Besides these, the NGOs are also involved in development and operation of infrastructure. The community-based organizations and cooperatives can acquire, subdivide and develop land, construct housing, provide infrastructure and operate and maintain infrastructure such as wells or public toilets and solid waste collection services (Davies 2014).

Supporting innovation, demonstration and pilot projects is yet another initiative of the NGOs. They have the advantage of selecting particular places for innovative projects and specify in advance the length of time which they will be supporting the project - overcoming some of the shortcomings that governments face in this respect. They also play a major role in facilitating communication. The significance of this role to the government is that NGOs can communicate to the policy-making levels of government, information about the lives, capabilities, attitudes and cultural characteristics of people at the local level. The NGOs can facilitate communication upward from people to the government and downward from the government to the people. They also engage in research, monitoring and evaluation. Innovative activities need to be carefully documented and shared - effective participatory monitoring would permit the sharing of results with the people themselves as well as with the project staff (Cousins 1991).

3. The NGOs in Jammu and Kashmir

The State of Jammu and Kashmir³ emerged as a volatile area right after the Partition in 1947. Soon after the Partition, both India and Pakistan came up with the claims for Kashmir and thus started the Kashmir dispute, which has not been settled till date. The State has gradually turned out to be a region where the human rights violations are at their height. This article focuses on the role of the human rights NGOs in Kashmir and examines the extent to which these NGOs function for protecting and promoting the human rights in this region. Terrorism⁴ and the anti-terror measures adopted by the State have inflicted sufferings to a large portion of the Kashmiri society. Human rights violations and abuses have been regularly reported from the Kashmir Valley. These violations and atrocities have taken place there at an alarming rate. The Central and the State governments have taken many steps to restore peace and tranquility in this region (Noorani 2011). The human rights NGOs in Kashmir also play a pivotal role in this venture. Besides these, the national and the international NGOs also contribute much for restoring peace and order in Kashmir. Though the human rights NGOs, especially the local human rights NGOs, have become crucial to the human rights movement, the fact is that very little attention is given to analyze their operations or to set out a framework in which their roles are critically examined.

Jammu and Kashmir is a region where human rights violations take place largely. A large number of Kashmiris are arbitrarily detained under special laws that lack vital legal safeguards. These laws provide the security forces with sweeping powers to arrest and detain the civilians. They are held for months or years without charge or trial. Torture by the

security forces is a daily routine and so brutal that hundreds have been died in custody as a result. Efforts by their relatives to use legal avenues to obtain redress have not been successful. The court orders to protect the detainees are routinely ignored and the legal machinery in the State has broken down. A judge of the Jammu and Kashmir High Court said in October 1994 that 'the rule of law in the State had ceased to exist' (AI 1995).

The human rights violations have been extensively documented by the human rights organizations such as the Human Rights Watch (HRW), the People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) and others. The Indian forces had killed nearly 2477 civilians in the period 1990-1998 (PTI release, 13 September 1998), according to the estimates by the official State Press. This estimate has not taken into account the thousands of custodial killings committed by the security agencies. In April 1997, the Minister of State for Home Affairs admitted that 454 persons were missing since 1990. In August 2000, the international NGO, Amnesty International (AI) reported that the fates of upto 1000 persons reported missing in Jammu and Kashmir since 1990 remain unexplained by the authorities. Few of the hundreds of the Habeas Corpus petitions filed by the families of the "disappeared" before the judiciary in Jammu and Kashmir have not been brought to a resolution. The Kashmir Monitor has also documented around 300 cases of disappearance during 1989-95 (AI 2000).

Large number of human rights violations have taken place here after the independence. Hence the NGOs have ample scope for flourishing in this region. There are several NGOs that are working to help the citizens of the State and to give all possible contributions to social as well as the economic development. They also work for the well being and the development of the people (Kishwar 2003). The NGOs working here may be classified as the international NGOs, the national NGOs and the local NGOs. The international NGOs like the Amnesty International (AI)⁵, Human Rights Watch (HRW)⁶, Red Cross⁷ etc. always take care to analyse the human rights situations in this region. They make necessary reports and give suggestions to the government and to other concerned authorities. The national NGOs like PUCL⁸, PUDR⁹ and others also report the human rights situation there and play a major role in making known to the wider world the concrete condition prevailing there. There are many local NGOs, which have a clear role for protecting and promoting the human rights in Jammu and Kashmir. The major local NGOs are ASHI, HWF, JKDAG, KCW, CSSS, MSS etc.

4. Role of International, National and Local NGOs

The national and international human rights NGOs are performing a significant role in documenting and sensitizing the human rights violations in Kashmir. The main function of the international and the national NGOs in Kashmir is to prepare up to date reports on the human rights situation and to analyse the range of human rights violations taking place there. Through these reports, the world comes to know about the human rights situation in the State. The researcher's informal discussion with the volunteers of AI and PUCL functionaries at different areas of Kashmir and officials located at the headquarters in New Delhi ascertain the above fact. The expert team of these NGOs visit the area where serious human rights violations have taken place. Following this, the team makes

reports on their first hand assessment. In this way, they make the society aware of the Kashmir issue by preparing reports on the basis of the survey conducted, regarding the conditions in Jammu and Kashmir. Such reports are circulated as widely as possible so that the people and the Government are made conscious of the facts. Thus, fact-finding and publicity task are the major contributions of these NGOs (Indian Institute of Human Rights 2007). Since the adoption of the UDHR by the UN General Assembly in 1948, the countries across the world provide extensive importance to the reports made by these NGOs and remain vigilant. The Central Government and the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir have been forced to bring about some policies and laws on the basis of these reports. Thus AI and PUCL have a significant role to ensure the protection and promotion of human rights in Jammu and Kashmir.

The AI and PUCL take special interest in bringing to the notice of the world, the human rights violations like mass killing, rape and molestations, enforced disappearances, illegal detentions, ethnic cleansing of the Hindus and the Sikhs etc. For example, in 2010, the AI published a report regarding the illegal detention of a political leader, Shabir Ahmad Shah. The AI, after going through this case, requested the Government to withdraw the Public Safety Act (PSA). It also suggested that those held in custody illegally should be provided with the opportunity to meet their relatives. Necessary requirements should be made for legal counsel as well as medical examination (AI 2011). Another report of the AI deals with the Draft of the J&K Police Bill, 2013. In its report, it conveys its deep concern that if the Bill is passed into law in its current form, it might make the perpetual exemption from punishment for human rights violations that witness in the State (AI 2013). In another report of the AI, regarding the illegal detention and harassment of a teenager boy Mushtaq Saleem Beigh, it demands the State authorities to immediately end the detention of the boy if he is not being held on the charges of a recognizably criminal offence. The AI takes special interest in bringing to the notice of the world the abuses against children and it urges to protect their rights (AI 2012). Similarly, the PUCL reports and press release have a profound influence on the national policy makers and the general public in the country. In 1990, a report was drafted by the PUCL regarding the Kashmir situation on the basis of a team visit. The team members got an opportunity to meet and communicate with a large number of people, which helped them to know about the extent of the human rights violations committed by the security agencies in the State. The team found that the reason behind the anguish of the people of the Kashmir Valley against India was because of the continuous curfew imposed in Srinagar. After this report came out, some significant changes took place in the Government's policy towards the State. The curfew was lifted by the Government. Attempts were made to ensure the supply of the medical and the essential commodities in the area (PUCL 1993). It is evident from these reports that the AI and PUCL function to protect the civil and political rights in Jammu and Kashmir.

The local human rights NGOs are performing a major role in widening the notions of human rights in Kashmir. The two local NGOs, i.e., CSSS and JKDAG, were taken for analyzing the role of the local human rights NGOs in Kashmir. The frequent interaction with various stakeholders involved in

human rights issues in J&K, confirmed the above fact. The field interaction with various sections of the civil society groups and the Government officials reveal that the local NGOs were performing a significant role in protecting human rights and in widening the notions of human rights in the State. The local NGOs in Kashmir concentrate on promoting human rights and social development in the urban as well as the rural communities. In addition, they also take part in the social welfare programmes organized by the Government. Their thrust areas include betterment of the children, women empowerment, promotion of education and healthcare, setting up small scale industries, generating job opportunities for the poor, disaster management, human rights awareness, provision of shelter for the needy and the helpless, creating awareness among the public and so on. Besides these usual activities, they also take care in setting up old age homes for elderly persons, charitable homes for physically handicapped and mentally challenged persons, and organizations for the upliftment of the rural children and women (Sikand 2004). They also put effort for the betterment of the backward and the deprived communities, and for the eradication of poverty and health related issues.

The focus of CSSS is the organizing of various activities that aim at community development. Keeping this in mind, it takes care to set up Village Health Committees and Self Helps Groups that strengthen the villagers. The NGO also organizes adult literacy classes, remedial classes for the economically backward students, Entrepreneurship Development Programmes for the youth, health awareness camps and social awareness programmes for the villagers and so on. It also conducts counselling programme for women and adolescent girls. CSSS has gained the attention of the country because of its rehabilitation of the HIV infected patients, differently abled children and that of the victims of the earthquake in the Uri region of the Baramulla district. The empowerment of women through the formation of Mahila Mandals is also a notable initiative of the CSSS (CSSS 2014-2015).

JKDAG's activities focus to bring about a profound social change, resulting in total transformation of the society, through practicing the message of perfect love. Establishment of child care homes and educational institutions is one of the major activities of JKDAG. It promotes youth development and women empowerment. The NGO's work in providing rehabilitation to the victims of the flood that hit Jammu and Kashmir in 2014 was commendable. The local NGOs in J&K are mainly focusing on the promotion of social, economic and cultural lives of the Kashmiri population. They also generate awareness against the various social evils like dowry, domestic violence, religious intolerance, illiteracy, etc. They also take up the issues like environmental degradation, lack of proper education, absence of basic facilities like food, medicine, clothes, increase in the rate of unemployment, the menace of poverty and child labour, molestation of women, female foeticide and so on (JKDAG 2014-2015).

Besides the national and the international NGOs, the local NGOs also play a seminal role in bringing about peace and harmony in the State. They bring home to the residents of Kashmir an idea about the basic rights they possess and how these rights are violated, sometimes without their knowledge. The shocking fact is that day by day, the reported cases of human rights violations, even in the remote areas of Jammu

and Kashmir are on a rise. Here comes the importance of the local NGOs. It is chiefly the local NGOs which know the pathetic situation of the remote areas and as such, contribute something for the betterment of the situation. CSSS and JKDAG are doing a great job in this context.

These NGOs take up the issues of the human rights violations, environmental degradation, the lack of proper education, the absence of basic facilities like food, medicine, clothes etc., increase in the rate of unemployment, the menace of poverty and child labour, molestation of women, female foeticide and so on. Their activities are aimed at putting an end to some of these issues, which they feel is the need of the hour. The focus of CSSS is the organisation of the activities that aim at community development. Keeping this in mind, it takes care to set up Village Health Committees and Self Help Groups to strengthen the villagers. CSSS also organises adult literacy classes, remedial classes for the economically backward students who are weak in studies, Entrepreneurship Development Programmes for the youth, health awareness camps and social awareness programmes for the villagers and so on. It also conducts counselling programmes for women and adolescent girls to empower them and build self-confidence in them. Establishment of mobile library is yet another initiative of the NGO as part of the community development. CSSS has gained the attention of the country because of its rehabilitation of the HIV infected patients, differently challenged children and that of the victims of the earthquake in the Uri region of Baramulla district. Empowerment of the women through the formation of Mahila Mandals also makes CSSS special. It also assists in promoting health, education and economic empowerment of the marginalised in the Baramulla district of Kashmir. It has provided relief to the victims of the Leh flash flood and constructed permanent houses for 15 affected families. The activities of CSSS are really appreciable.

JKDAG is a charitable NGO that strengthens the bond of love among the various groups of people by striving for unity and the development of the indigenous communities. Its activities focus to bring about a permanent social change, resulting in total transformation of the society, through practising the message of perfect love. Its motto itself conveys this, 'perfect love casts out fear'. Its primary focus is the overall development of the most vulnerable groups in the society as well as the rural and the urban poor in Jammu and Kashmir. With this in mind, the NGO carries out a number of activities for uplifting the deserving people. The NGOs began its activities in the year 2000, when it restricted its focus of attention in Srinagar only. The establishment of child care homes and educational institutions is one of the major activities of JKDAG. It promotes youth development and women empowerment. Timely response to disaster situations makes the NGO different. The NGO's work in providing rehabilitation to the victims of the flood that hit Jammu and Kashmir in 2014, attracted the attention of the whole nation. It also organises general awareness camps regarding health, education and environment in various tourist locations of the State. Its initiative to protect the street children is also noteworthy. However, the fact is that in spite of the enormous changes brought about by these NGOs in the social, economic and cultural lives of the Kashmir people, they have miserably failed in adequately addressing the grave violations of the civil and the political rights, continuously committed by the State and the

non State actors. To sum up, the local NGOs – CSSS and JKDAG – strive to maintain a peaceful atmosphere in the State through their timely activities.

5. Conclusion

NGOs are welfare organizations and to maintain high quality in their services, the Government should recognize them by giving rewards with additional grants. The fact is that this would motivate other NGOs to work efficiently. The NGOs need to expand their sphere of activities. They should arrange frequent programmes to increase the awareness of human rights. Particularly, the NGOs in J&K need to expand their bases from the local level to the State level. At present, many NGOs are based only in particular districts and it is true that by expanding their networks, they can cater to the needs of many people throughout the State. It will be appreciable if the NGOs conduct frequent human rights camps in which the common people are taught to take action in the cases of human rights violations. Documentary films on human rights can be arranged and shown in popular national and regional channels which also provides awareness to the ordinary people.

The NGOs and other civil society initiatives in India often encounter many operational difficulties and challenges. Most of the NGOs experience the lack of funds for their field operations, lack of qualified personnel, inability to materialize their stated objectives etc. The NGOs receive the funds needed for their day to day activities from the donation by the philanthropists and other likeminded groups in the society. Besides this, some NGOs regularly receive funds from the foreign agencies. Those NGOs which receive the frequent non-transparent and unaccountable donations from foreign agencies have the possibility of hijacking its stated goals and objectives by the donor agencies. This is one of the greatest allegations against the NGOs. Even though this is the case, most of the human rights NGOs promote and protect human rights through their routine functions.

In Jammu and Kashmir, international, national as well as the local NGOs are functioning in a cordial atmosphere. International and national NGOs in J&K mainly focus on the protection and promotion of civil and political rights and the local NGOs concentrate on economic, social and cultural rights. The recommendations and the findings of the NGOs like the AI and the PUCL regarding the area of Jammu and Kashmir have been given due consideration by the civil society groups and the Central and the State Governments. The local NGOs mainly function to consolidate and further advance the initiatives of the national and the international NGOs regarding human rights. They also ensure that the people of Jammu and Kashmir are benefited by such initiatives. The operational hardship and other difficulties encountered by the NGOs from the Government agencies are often redressed by the independent functioning of the judiciary in the State. Judiciary has a prominent role for the protection and safeguard of the rights of the Kashmiri people. Thus, most local NGOs depend on the Judiciary for getting redresses of their grievances. In short, NGOs play a pivotal role in ensuring and enhancing the quality of life in Jammu and Kashmir region.

6. Notes

1. A developing country or less developed country which possesses an industrial base which is not much

developed. The Human Development Index (HDI) in such countries is usually low. This is not a globally agreed definition. Moreover, there is no clear cut criterion so as to decide which countries are to be in this category. A nation's GDP per capita compared with other nations can also be a reference point.

2. Human capital refers to the list of social and personality features which are essential in the need to perform labour. This is required to produce economic value. It is something which is unique and distinguishable from any other capital. Companies need to possess ample human capital to achieve their goals. The original idea of human capital can be traced back from Adam Smith in the 18th century. The modern theory was popularized by Gary Becker, an economist and Nobel Laureate from the University of Chicago, Jacob Mincer, and Theodore Schultz.
3. Jammu and Kashmir was earlier under the administration of India as a state from 1954 to 2019. The southern and south eastern portion of the larger Kashmir region has been the subject of a dispute between India, Pakistan and China since the mid-20th century. The said region of this state were parts of the former princely state of Jammu and Kashmir, whose western districts, now known as Azad Kashmir, and northern territories, now known as Gilgit-Baltistan, are administered by Pakistan. The Government of India recalled the special status provided to Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 of the Indian constitution in 2019. Following this, the India Parliament passed the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, which contained provisions that dissolved the state and reorganised it into two union territories – Jammu and Kashmir in the west and Ladakh in the east, with effect from 31 October 2019.
4. Terrorism is defined as the use of deliberate violence for political or religious purposes. Basically the term indicates any sort of violence during peacetime. The terms 'terrorist' and 'terrorism' originated during the French Revolution of the late 18th century but gained mainstream popularity in the 1970s during the conflicts of Northern Ireland, the Basque Country and Palestine. The increased use of suicide attacks from the 1980s onwards was typified by the September 11 attacks in New York City and Washington, D.C. in 2001. There are a variety of different definitions of terrorism, with no universal agreement about it. It has the connotation of anything that is morally wrong. Governments and non-state groups make use of this term to blame the opposing groups. When terrorism is perpetrated by nation states, it is not considered terrorism by the state conducting it, making legality a largely grey-area issue. There is no consensus as to whether or not terrorism should be regarded as a war crime.
5. Amnesty International (AI) is a non-governmental organization which stands for the preservation of human rights. Its headquarters is located in the United Kingdom. The organization says it has more than eight million members and supporters around the world. The stated mission of the organization is to

campaign for 'a world in which every person enjoys all of the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments'. Amnesty International was founded in 1961, following the publication of the article "The Forgotten Prisoners" in *The Observer* on 28 May 1961, by the lawyers-Peter Benenson and Philip James. Amnesty draws attention to human rights abuses and campaigns for compliance with international laws and standards. It works to mobilize public opinion to generate pressure on governments where abuse takes place. The organization was awarded the 1977 Nobel Peace Prize for its 'defence of human dignity against torture' and the United Nations Prize in the Field of Human Rights in 1978.

6. Human Rights Watch (HRW) is an international non-governmental organization, headquartered in New York City that conducts research and advocacy on human rights. The group pressures some governments, policy makers and human rights abusers to denounce abuse and respect human rights, and the group often works on behalf of refugees, children, migrants and political prisoners. It also takes measures to ensure that the Governments and the policy makers take strict measures to check human rights violence and respect human rights. Human Rights Watch in 1997 shared in the Nobel Peace Prize as a founding member of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines and it played a leading role in the 2008 treaty banning cluster munitions. The organization's annual expenses totalled \$50.6 million in 2011, \$69.2 million in 2014, and \$75.5 million in 2017.
7. The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement is an international humanitarian movement with approximately 97 million volunteers, members and staff worldwide. It was founded to protect human life and health, to ensure respect for all human beings, and to prevent and alleviate human suffering. The movement consists of several distinct organizations that are legally independent from each other, but are united within the movement through common basic principles, objectives, symbols, statutes and governing organisations. The movement's parts are: The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is a private humanitarian institution founded in 1863 in Geneva, Switzerland, in particular by Henry Dunant and Gustave Moynier. The ICRC was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize on three occasions in 1917, 1944 and 1963. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) was founded in 1919 and today it coordinates activities between the 190 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies within the Movement. On an international level, the

Federation leads and organizes, in close cooperation with the National Societies, relief assistance missions responding to large-scale emergencies. The International Federation Secretariat is based in Geneva, Switzerland. In 1963, the Federation (then known as the League of Red Cross Societies) was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize jointly with the ICRC. National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies exist in nearly every country in the world. Currently 190 National Societies are recognized by the ICRC and admitted as full members of the Federation. Each entity works in its home country according to the principles of international humanitarian law and the statutes of the international Movement.

8. People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) is a human rights body in India. It was established in 1976 by the socialist leader Jayaprakash Narayan. The present organization came into being in January 1977. It was set up as the Delhi unit of the People's Union for Civil Liberties and Democratic Rights (PUCL & DR). The organization came up as a direct response to the suspension of the constitutionally guaranteed rights and liberties and extraordinary legislations during the Emergency. Thus the fight against the institutionalized forms of suppression turned out to be the mission of the organization. It continued to be so when more harsh legislations came into being. Gradually, the organization spent time to concentrate on the social and the structural roots of repression in the context of the unjust social order that prevailed in the country. When the Congress returned to power, the national body regained vigour in 1980, but in a new form. The new body then came to be known as the PUCL, and among other things, made a two way division between the civil liberties and the democratic rights. The Delhi unit preferred to exist separately. Thus the People's Union for Democratic Rights (PUDR) came into being in February 1981.
9. People's Union for Democratic Rights (PUDR) is an organisation based in Delhi which is committed to legally defend 'civil liberties and democratic rights' of the people. PUDR is an independent entity and is not affiliated to any political party or organisation. The PUDR was initially formed as the Delhi's unit of the People's Union for Civil Liberties and Democratic Rights (PUCLDR) in 1977, but the PUCLDR discontinued its activities after the Janata Party's success in the elections, while the PUDR continued to work. The national forum (PUCLDR) was later revived in 1980, but in a 'new form' and with a new name, PUCL, creating a dichotomous bisection between civil liberties and democratic rights. Later in February 1981, the PUDR opted to function as a separate organisation.

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