


Role of NGOs in Protection of Human Rights in India

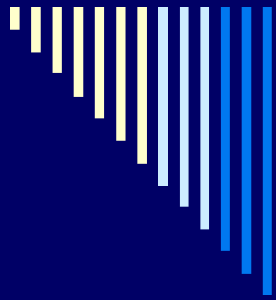
By

Dr. P.K. Pandey



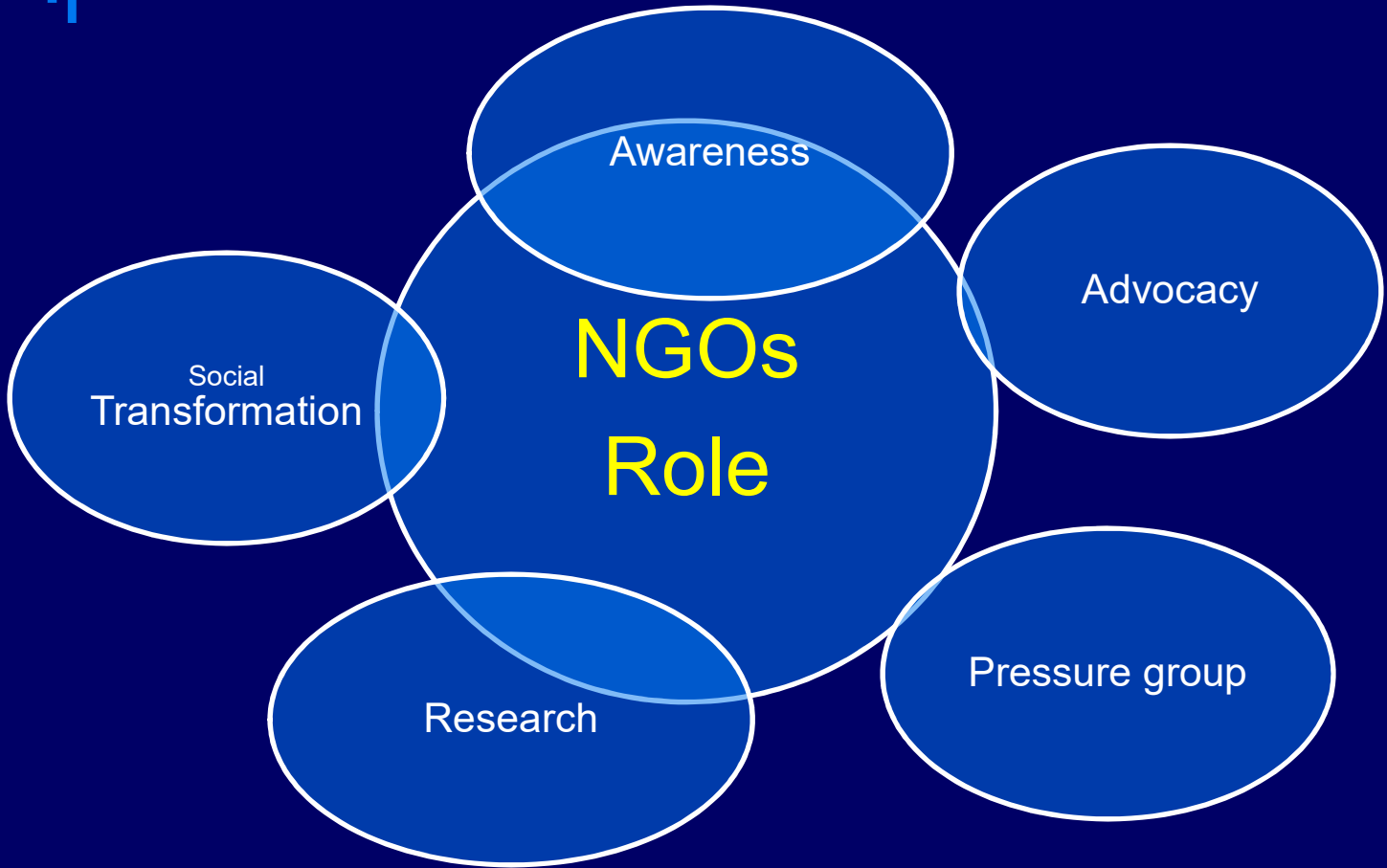
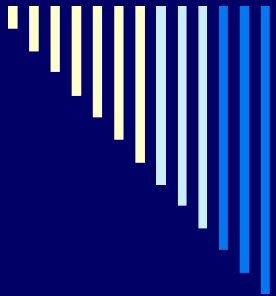
Introduction

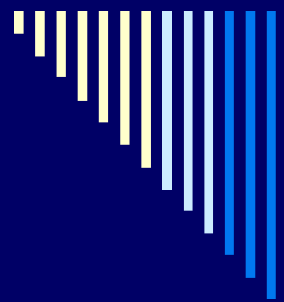
- Welfare State's role expanded multifaceted
 - States under various constitutional/ statutory obligations
 - NGOs- non-profit organisations
 - Why NGOs?
 - What are the role of NGOs?
 - Bridging relationship between Government and citizens
 - Working in different areas including human rights
 - NGOs are not HR enforcement agency
 - Civil society, parallel but separate from State, initiated to safeguard interests of society.
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□ Non-Governmental Organizations-

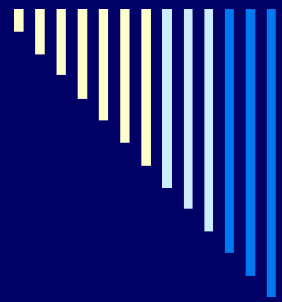
- promote awareness and respect for Human Rights
- disseminate knowledge and information for Human Rights
- act as pressure group
- help the victim of human right violation by providing them assistance and advice
- approach courts/HR Commissions by filing cases/ writ petitions/ PILs
- collect correct picture of the human rights enforcement through studies





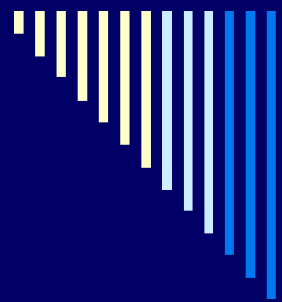
Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

- World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna on 14-25 June, 1993 adopted *Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action*
- A common plan to strengthen the human rights work around the world
- Conference was attended by representatives of 171 nations and 800 NGOs, with some 7,000 participants



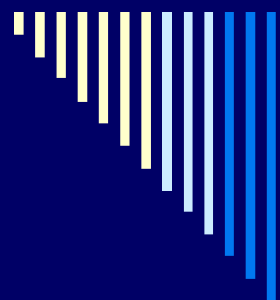
Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

38. The World Conference on Human Rights recognizes the important role of non-governmental organizations in the **promotion** of all human rights and in humanitarian activities at national, regional and international levels. The World Conference on Human Rights appreciates their contribution **to increasing public awareness of human rights issues, to the conduct of education, training and research in this field, and to the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms.** While recognizing that the primary responsibility for standard-setting lies with States, the conference also appreciates the contribution of non-governmental organizations to this process. In this respect, the World Conference on Human Rights emphasizes the importance of **continued dialogue and cooperation between Governments and non-governmental organizations.**



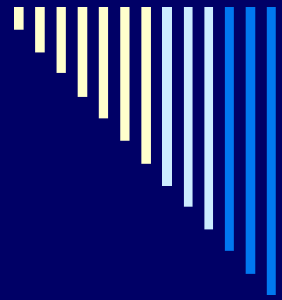
Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Non-governmental organizations and their members genuinely involved in the field of human rights should enjoy the rights and freedoms recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the protection of the national law. These rights and freedoms may not be exercised contrary to the purposes and principles of the United Nations. Non-governmental organizations should be free to carry out their human rights activities, without interference, within the framework of national law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.



Leading NGOs

- Amnesty International
- Human Rights Action Centre
- Human Rights Watch
- Human Rights Without Frontiers



Amnesty International

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



- Establishment-1961
- Headquarter-London, UK
- From the death penalty to free speech, we protect people's human rights.

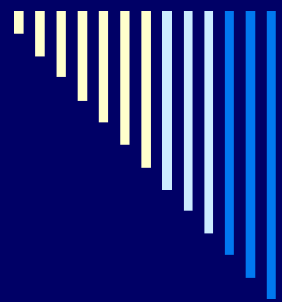


Human Rights Action Centre

- A voice for the voiceless and an advocate for human rights for all of the world
- Creating awareness and access to human rights for all people

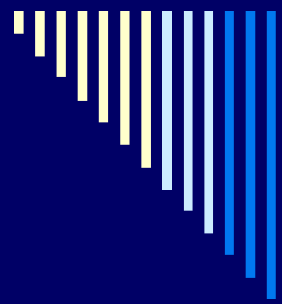
Human Rights Watch

- Establishment-1978
 - Headquarter-New York
 - Defending the rights of people in 100 countries worldwide, spotlighting abuses and bringing perpetrators to justice
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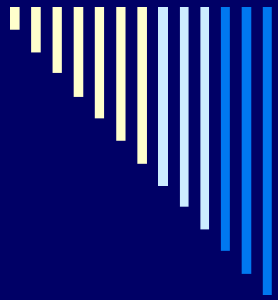
Human Rights Without Frontiers

- Establishment-1988
 - Headquarter-Brussels, Belgium
 - Monitoring, research and analysis in the field of human rights
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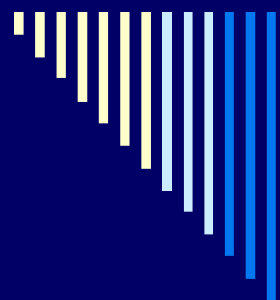


Leading Cases filed by Indian NGOs

- People'S Union for Democratic *Rights v.* Union of India, 1983 SCR (1) 456-violation of labour laws in Asian Games
- *Peoples' Union for Democratic Rights v. State of Bihar*, (1987) 1 SCC 265- People killed in police firing
- *Peoples' Union for Democratic Rights v. Police Commissioner, Delhi Police Headquarters*, (1989) 4 SCC 730- Labourers compelled by police to work without paying any charge
- People'S Union of Civil Liberties v. Union of India, AIR 1997 SC 568-Telephone-Tapping

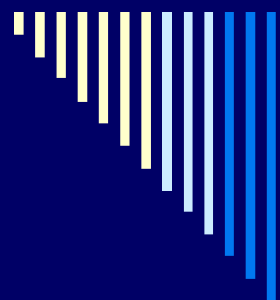


- *Bandhua Mukti Morcha v. Union of India & Others*, 1984 SCR (2) 67- bonded labour
- *Saheli, A Women's Resources center v. Commissioner of Police, Delhi*, (1990) 1 SCC 422- Death due to beating by police
- *Vishaka and others v. State of Rajasthan*, AIR 1997 SC 3011- Sexual harassment of working women



Challenges before NGOs

- ❑ Platform of livelihood
- ❑ Weak accountability
- ❑ Non-transparent system
- ❑ Poor governance
- ❑ Lack of funds
- ❑ Misappropriation/ misuse of funds
- ❑ Political interference



Thank You
