

Invitation for Press Meet & Release of WGHR's "Joint Stakeholder's Report" on 12th Jan, 4 pm IWPC, New Delhi

Civil Society submits report to the UN for evaluation of India's Human Rights

A **"Joint stakeholder's Report"** on the status of Human Rights in India will be released by The Working Group On Human Rights in India and the UN (WGHR), a coalition of 12 human rights organizations and independent experts in India. The Joint Stakeholders' Report submitted to UN Human Rights Council for the upcoming third Universal Periodic Review of India gives an overview of the current human rights situation across the country. The UPR review for India is due to take place at Geneva in May 2017 under which India's human rights record, obligations and commitments will be evaluated by 193 member states of the UN at the United Nations Human Rights Council.

The official press release of the report will take place on 12th January 2017 at 4 pm at the Women's Press Club in Delhi. It will be addressed by Ms. Vrinda Grover [Human rights lawyer], Mr. Miloon Kothari, [former Special Rapporteur to the UN], Ms. Maja Daruwala [Senior Adviser, CHRI] Mr. Paul Divakar (Gen. Sec. National Campaign for Dalit Human Rights), Ms. Enakshi Ganguly [Co-Director, HAQ Centre for Child Rights] & others. The event will be accompanied by high tea.

We hope to see a representative of your organisation to cover the event. For more details kindly do feel free to contact Ms. Meha khanduri (Mob 8826926884) (Email: upr3coord@gmail.com)

Warm regards

Henri Tiphagne,
Convenor, WGHR
G 66, Saket, New Delhi
www.wghr.org

Detailed Note Regarding Press Release:

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a mechanism of Human Rights Council (HRC) aiming at improving the human rights situation on the ground of each of the UN member states. Under this the human rights situation of all member states is reviewed every 4-5 years by a working group in Geneva. The result of the review is reflected in an 'Outcome report' listing the recommendations the State under review will have to implement before the next review.

The WGHR report is a collective effort by multiple NGOs, lawyers and other individuals working in the area of civil & political rights, economic, social and cultural rights, health and education rights, women's & child rights, land rights, RTI, Dalit rights and many other thematic human rights issues in India. It is one of the most widely endorsed civil society reports submitted to the UN and has been endorsed by more than a 1000 NGOs, lawyers, civil society activists and others from almost all states in the country. The report deals with critical issues like social inequality, homelessness, cancellation of FCRA of NGOs, harassment of civil rights activists, shrinking of democratic space, minority, women and children's condition in India, Dalit and tribal issues, as well as recommendations on each of these issues.

WGHR has been active in preparing a monitoring tool and in supporting collective consultations across the country following India's second UPR recommendations in 2012. The current report is a culmination of 20 regional/state consultations and a national thematic consultation organised in July and August 2016, across the country, in which approximately a thousand grassroots level human rights organizations, activists and state experts took part. This extensive national process culminated in a National Consultation in Manesar, Haryana bringing together 90 participants representing national human rights organisations, thematic networks and independent experts in various areas of human rights to discuss, debate and jointly agree upon the UPR III Civil Society Organization Stakeholders Report which was submitted to the United Nations on 22nd September 2016.

About WGHR:

The Working Group On Human Rights (WGHR) is a coalition of 12 human rights organizations and independent experts from India, which works towards the realization of all human rights in India and aims at holding the Indian government accountable for its national and international obligations. At the international level, WGHR seeks to facilitate Indian civil society's engagement with the UN human rights instruments and mechanisms.

Date: 12th January 2017 Time: 4 pm

Venue: Indian Women's Press Club,

5 Windsor Place, Ashoka Road,

New Delhi-110001