

India among 42 countries where people are persecuted for raising human rights issues, report says FGN News

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On February 26, 2022, the son of Urikhimbam, secretary of the NGO United Mission Manipur, was brutally attacked at gunpoint by unidentified men who took him away in a car, assaulted him and threatened with death, and dropped him off at a police station with serious injuries.

The case of the Central Jammu and Kashmir Coalition of Civil Society (JKCCS) was cited in the 2020 and 2021 report also on the allegation of assessments. The situation of JKCCS and its chairman Khurram Parvez, as well as other members of the coalition, has been included in every annual report since 2017.

The Indian government has responded in the matter. However, Parvez was still under a travel ban as of May 2021. The Indian government responded in August 2021 and justified his detention, and that he had received legal and medical assistance and access to his family, subject to security requirements. He was arrested again on November 22, 2021 under the UAPA.

According to the latest information received by OHCHR, following heightened online and offline surveillance and police interrogation and intimidation of JKCCS and associated personnel, their work in human rights has been affected and they have not been able to issue a public report on the human rights situation in Jammu and Kashmir (Indian and Pakistani side) since 2020.

The situation of Henri Tiphagne of the Center for the Advancement of Social Concerns (CPSC, also known as People's Watch) was included in the 2018, 2019 and 2021 reports. Their foreign funding was restricted on the allegation of funding the terrorism, but the UN body said it was clearly a case of retaliation. In January and February 2022, the CBI raided it and the case is pending in the Delhi High Court, due to which the petition for intervention filed with the National Human Rights Commission of India was rejected.

The case of International Dalit Solidarity Network (IDSN), a Denmark-based NGO fighting against caste-based discrimination and for the rights of Dalits, was included in the 2020 and 2021 report. IDSN to ECOSOC has been postponed several times since 2008 limiting its engagement with the UN.

The Indian government responded in August 2021, only to say that it was not aware of any incidents of retaliation and intimidation against the organization, and that "legitimate consideration" of a request cannot be called retaliation.

(API Service)

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