

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



UPHOLDING JUSTICE ONE YEAR OF LEGAL & SOCIAL INTERVENTIONS

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ABOUT US

The Association for Protection of Civil Rights (APCR) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization that was founded in 2006 and registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860. In the last 20 years, it has grown steadily and now works across 18 states in India, with offices in several regions.

APCR is made up of people who care deeply about justice. Its network includes lawyers, retired judges, social activists, human rights defenders, journalists, researchers, academics, students, and paralegal volunteers. What brings them together is a shared belief that the law should protect everyone, especially those who are pushed to the margins.

At its heart, APCR believes real change is possible through the proper use of legal systems and courts. The law, when used with integrity and courage, can be a powerful tool for justice.

What APCR works towards:

- Spreading awareness about civil and human rights
- Running a helpline to guide and support marginalized individuals
- Training social activists and volunteers so they can serve their communities better
- Defending the legal rights of oppressed communities
- Providing legal aid to victims of injustice
- Working consistently to challenge oppression and injustice in India

To do this, APCR relies on a dedicated team of lawyers, social workers, and grassroots paralegal volunteers. The organization also holds seminars, workshops, and community programs to promote legal awareness and open, democratic dialogue.

Over the years, APCR has published fact-finding reports on incidents of large-scale violence and hate crimes. Alongside this, it continues to offer free legal assistance to those who cannot afford representation, standing with them in their fight for justice.

WHAT WE DO?

We are a legal advocacy group working in 3 domains.





IMPACT IN NUMBERS

ORGANIZATIONAL NETWORK

400+
District Chapters

18+
State Chapters

1100+
Advocates

100+
Former Bureaucrats

14+
State Offices

3900+
Volunteers

60+
Legal Aid Clinics

2100+
Members

940+
Social Activists

600+
Journalists

350+
Community Awareness Meetings During SIR

60+
Volunteer Training During SIR

50+
Former Judges

950+
Law students

WORKSHOPS/TRAININGS

100+
Workshops

250+
Planning & Review Meets

60+
Volunteer Training During SIR

90+
Seminars Webinars

100+
Helpdesk/SIR Camps

420+
Legal Awareness Events

120+
Paralegal Trainings

870+
Prisoners Released

50+
FIRs

LEGAL INTERVENTION

557+
RTI Requests

450+
Complaints

170+
Fact Finding Visits

48+
Fact Finding Reports

2800+
Cases

120+
Press Statements

75+
Press Meets

900+
Bails & Paroles

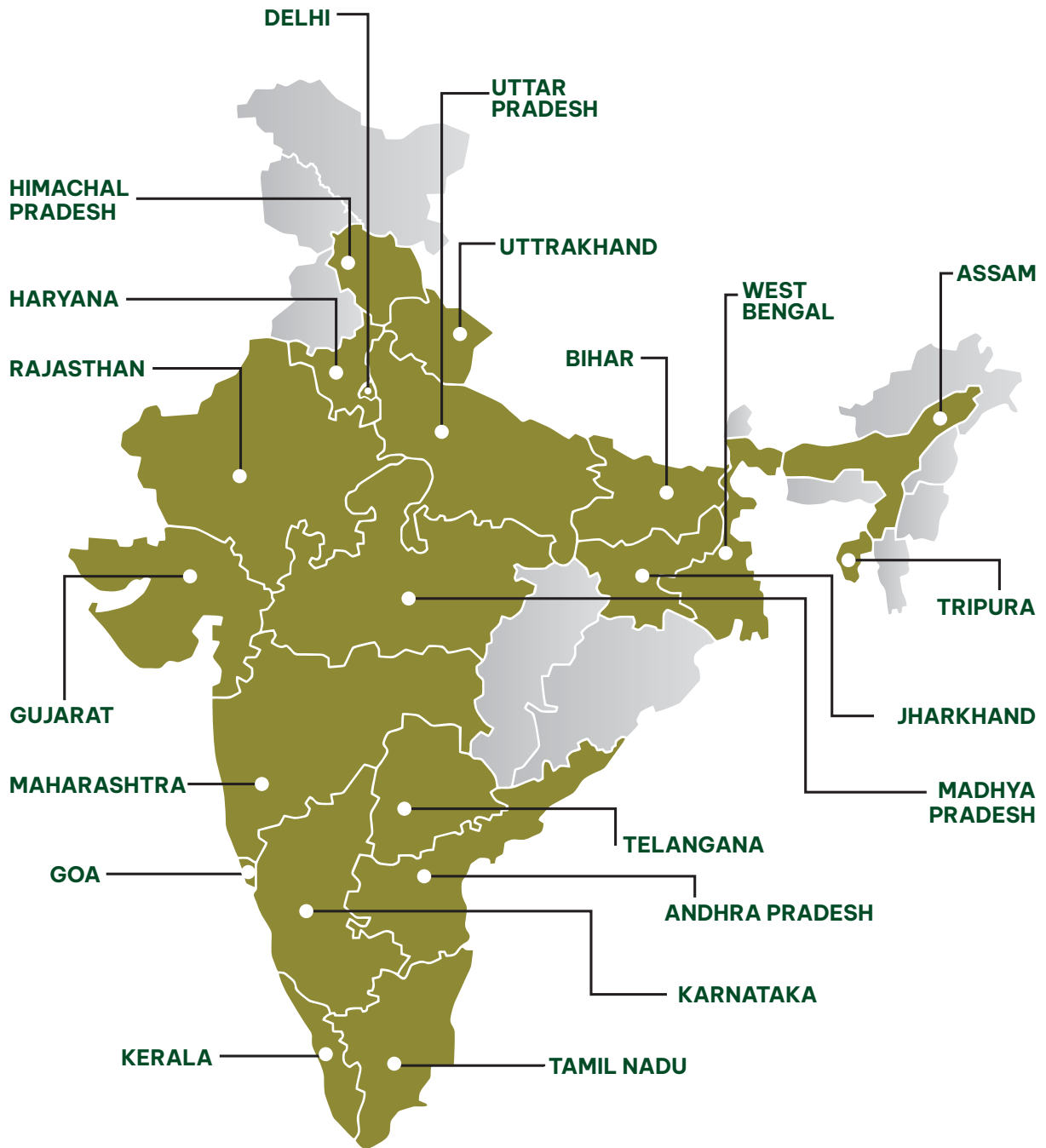
5000+
Legal Counseling Services

15+
PILs

40+
Writs



OUR FOOTPRINTS





OVERVIEW

This report looks back at the work of the Association for Protection of Civil Rights (APCR) from January to December 2025. Over these twelve months, APCR worked in different parts of the country, standing with communities that are often the first to face violence, wrongful arrests, demolitions, and discriminatory policies.

In this period, APCR dealt with more than 500 legal cases. Teams carried out over 30 fact-finding visits to places where rights violations were reported. Important petitions were filed in courts. Legal awareness programs were organised. Lawyers visited prisons. Families navigating arrests, fear, and uncertainty were supported through legal aid and guidance.

APCR also played a pivotal role during the Special Intensive Revision process, closely monitoring developments, assisting affected individuals, and raising concerns wherever due process and voter rights appeared to be at risk.

Sometimes the work meant challenging illegal demolitions. Sometimes it meant securing bail for someone wrongly accused. At other times, it was as simple, and as vital, as making sure a person had a lawyer who would actually listen. At its heart, APCR's work has been about one thing: making justice a little more reachable for those who are often pushed to the margins.

This report highlights key legal interventions, public campaigns, awareness initiatives, and prison outreach efforts. It also acknowledges a larger reality. Across the country, vulnerable communities are facing increasing pressure, both from state institutions and from sections of society. In such a climate, documenting injustice, providing legal support, and standing firm for basic constitutional rights is not optional. It is necessary.

Consultation Meetings	600+
Workshops	400+
Fact-Finding Visits	45+
Fact-Finding Reports	15+
Prison-related Activities	40+
Press Conferences	15+
Legal Awareness Programs	50+
Free Legal Advice Sessions	15+

Total Cases	845+
Bails Obtained	150+
Stays Obtained	14+
Petitions Filed	55+
RTI Applications Filed	100+
RTI Workshops	5+
Memoranda Submitted	7+

With data inputs from Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, and Kerala.



LEGAL INTERVENTIONS

APCR facilitated the PIL against Rajasthan’s Draconian Anti-Conversion Law

The Association for Protection of Civil Rights (APCR) facilitated a PIL in the Supreme Court challenging the constitutionality of certain provisions of the Rajasthan Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, 2025, namely, section 5(6), 10(3), 12, and 13 of the Act concerning the penalties for the offence of unlawful conversion including forfeiture, confiscation, and demolition of properties through Abhay Mahadeo Thipsay, Senior Advocate, Yashwant Singh, AOR. The division bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta issued notice to the state of Rajasthan on the main petition as well as the interim stay application.

Case Details: M Huzaifa & Anr. v. State of Rajasthan & Ors. W.P.(C) No. 1047/2025, Court 5 HMJ Vikram Nath & Sandeep Mehta

Reopening of Appeals in the Ajmer Bomb Blast Case, 2007

APCR’s legal team represented Syed Sarwar Chisty, the complainant in the 2007 Ajmer bomb blast case, before the Supreme Court in a Special Leave Petition against the Rajasthan High Court’s dismissal of the victim’s criminal appeal. In an interim relief, the Supreme Court has directed the High Court to rehear the criminal appeal on merits, notwithstanding any delay in filing or previous order of dismissal. This landmark order has renewed hope for justice for the terror victims of the Ajmer Bomb Blast, 2007, through Senior Advocate Abhay Mahadeo Thipsay, Advocate Sowjhanya Shankaran, Advocate Siddharth Satija, and Advocate M Huzaifa

Case Details: Syed Sarwar Chisty v. State of Rajasthan Diary No. 51829/2025

HOME OPINION INDIA WEST BENGAL WORLD

Supreme Court questions Rajasthan’s anti-conversion law over property confiscation clauses

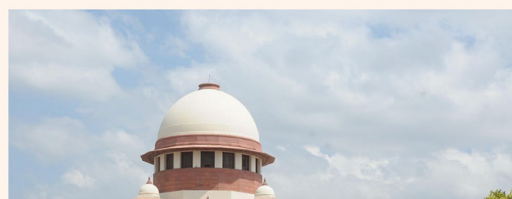
The petition argues that provisions allowing demolition and forfeiture without judicial process violate Supreme Court rulings and undermine citizens’ constitutional rights



Indian Muslim India Muslim World World Opinion

Crime Hindutva Indian Muslim

Supreme Court revives appeal in 2007 Ajmer Dargah blast case, issues notice to Rajasthan



NSA Quashed in Javra Temple Case; Four Youths Released

In petitions filed by APCR challenging the demolition of houses and the imposition of the NSA following the June 14, 2024, Javra temple incident (Ratlam, M.P.), the Madhya Pradesh High Court quashed the NSA against three accused and ordered their release. The Supreme Court, in related proceedings, held that demolition cannot be carried out solely on the ground that a person is an accused and emphasised accountability for illegal demolitions.

Case Title: Salman & Ors. vs. State of Madhya Pradesh & Ors.

2023 Train firing case involving RPF cop: Accused said 'yeh 2008 ka badla hai', Witness tells court

The witness, who testified before Additional Sessions Judge Y B Pathan (Dindoshi Court), said he was returning to Mumbai from a vacation.

Palghar Train Firing Case; APCR Mumbai Represents Victim's Family

On July 31, 2023, a Railway Protection Force (RPF) guard named Chetan Singh shot and killed four people, including his senior, on a Superfast train traveling from Jaipur to Mumbai near Palghar, Maharashtra. The victims were three Muslim passengers, Abdul Qadir Bhai Muhammad Hussain Bhanpurwala, Asghar Abbas Sheikh and Sadar Muhammad Hussain and ASI Takaram Meena, who was from a Scheduled Tribe. The killings took place with the accused's service rifle. The APCR Mumbai is representing the family of one of the victims, Asghar Abbas Sheikh, advocating for higher compensation and supporting the family through the trial. Trial has resumed after Thane Mental Hospital reported about the accused Chetan Singh's sound mental health.

Case Details: The State of Maharashtra v/s Chetan Singh (RPF, Accused) Intervner: APCR Mumbai 678/2023 Dindoshi Court, Andheri

APCR Secures Bail for Shoab Ahmed Mirza in Rameshwaram Cafe Blast Case

Shoab Ahmed Mirza was arrested in May 2024 based solely on a coerced confession tying him to a cafe blast. Despite months of investigation, the NIA failed to file a charge sheet. APCR's legal team, led by Advocate Niyaz, exposed the lack of evidence and procedural delays, securing Shoab's bail and reaffirming his right to freedom under the law.

Case Title: Abdul Matheen and Ors vs. National Investigation Agency @ Bengaluru Branch Spl c1976/24

Case Filed Against Islam Hussain Over Speech at Uttarakhand Open University

Mr. Islam Hussain (71) delivered a speech as the Chief Guest at Uttarakhand Open University on October 2, 2025. Nearly three months later, members of Bajrang Dal filed a complaint alleging that remarks made during the address were offensive to cows. The matter is currently subject to legal proceedings following the delayed filing of the case.

Case Details: F.I.R No 0005/2026; 04/01/2026

No.	Date	Office Note, Memo, order or proceedings of directions and decisions order with signature.	COURT'S OR JUDGE'S ORDER
			<p>WPCRL No.86 of 2026</p> <p>Hon'ble Ashish Naithani, J.</p> <p>Ms. Jyoti Kala, learned counsel holding brief of Mr. B.M. Pingal, learned counsel for the Petitioner.</p> <p>2. Mr. Rakesh Negi, learned Brief Holder, for the State of Uttarakhand/1 & 2.</p> <p>3. The present Petitioner has put a challenge to the FIR No.05 of 2026, dated 04.01.2026, which was registered at Police Station Haldwani, District Nainital for his alleged involvement in commission of the offences under Sections 299, 302 and 353 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023.</p> <p>4. As far as the offences under Sections 299, 302 and 353 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, are concerned, it carry a sentence of less than seven years, and it will be covered by the ratio laid down by the Hon'ble Apex Court in the matters of "Arnesh Kumar vs. State Of Bihar" reported in 2014 (8) SCC 273, where the Applicant is required to surrender before the court and seek his bail. However, the said benefit of "Arnesh Kumar vs. State of Bihar", would be extended to the Petitioner, subject to the condition that he cooperates with the investigation and render full support to the Respondent No. 2.</p> <p>5. In view of the aforesaid, this writ petition is being disposed of under the guidelines framed under the judgment of "Arnesh Kumar vs State of Bihar". However, if there is any dereliction on part of the Petitioner for not cooperating in the investigation, the benefit as granted by this order would automatically cease to have its effect.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(Ashish Naithani, J.) 09.01.2026</p> <p>Nitesh/</p>

Bail Granted to Kashmiri Photojournalist Manan Dar

Bail was granted to 25-year-old Kashmiri photojournalist Mohd Manan Dar by a Delhi court in a UAPA case, with the court observing that the accusations made by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) did not appear cogent or credible.

Case Title: NIA vs Tariq Ahmad Dar and ors

SC Orders FIR & SIT Probe in 2023 Akola Communal Violence Case

In a petition pursued by APCR, the Supreme Court directed the Maharashtra Home Department to register an FIR, constitute a Special Investigation Team (SIT), and initiate disciplinary proceedings against police officials for "patent dereliction of duty" in the 2023 Akola communal violence case. The Court found that despite a written complaint and medico-legal records, no FIR was registered in the assault on Mohammad Afzal, who was injured while witnessing the fatal attack on Vilas Mahadevrao Gaikwad during the May 13, 2023, riots. The SIT, comprising senior officers from both Hindu and Muslim communities, has been directed to submit its report within three months. The Court also ordered action against erring officials and called for sensitisation of police personnel to uphold their legal duties without bias.

Case Title: 25001/2025; Mohammad Afzal
Mohammad Sharif vs State of Maharashtra; SLP (Crl.) - FIR Registration

Demolition of Scrap Dealer's House in Malwan, Sindhudurg, Referred for Contempt Petition

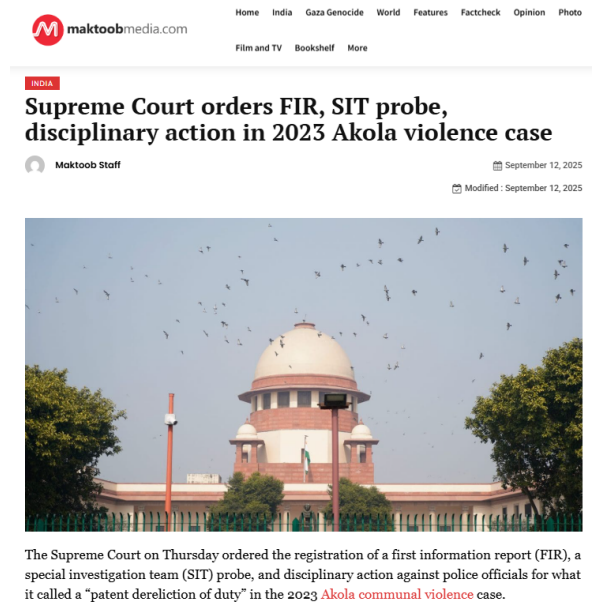
The house and shop of a scrap dealer in Malwan, District Sindhudurg, were bulldozed by the municipality after false accusations that his 15-year-old son had chanted anti-India slogans following a cricket match. The allegation was based solely on an unidentified bystander's claim. We filed a contempt petition to seek justice and accountability for this malicious demolition. Notice issued.

Case Title: Kitabulla Hamidulla Khan v. Santosh Jirage; Diary No.: 14670/2025; E-Filing No.: ECSCIN0111261/2025

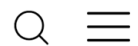
APCR Secured Supreme Court Notice in Akola Riot Victim's Case

APCR facilitated the filing of a Special Leave Petition in the Supreme Court on behalf of Mohammad Afzal Mohammed Sharif, who was seriously injured during the 2023 riots in Akola city. After his petition was rejected by the Nagpur High Court, APCR intervened to ensure further legal recourse. The Supreme Court issued notice to the concerned parties, providing hope for justice and accountability in his case.

Case Title: Mohammad Afzal Mohammed Sharif v. The State of Maharashtra @ Supreme Court of India, Diary No 5001/2025; Lower Court Case No.: 795/2023



SCO Supreme Court Observer



Home > Cases > Bail Applications in the Delhi Riots 'Larger Conspiracy' Case > Bail Applications in the Delhi Riots 'Larger Conspiracy' Case | Judgement Summary

Bail Applications in the Delhi Riots 'Larger Conspiracy' Case | Judgement Summary

Bail Applications in the Delhi Riots 'Larger Conspiracy' Case

APCR Secures 3 Bail in FIR 59/2020 PS Crime Branch New Delhi

APCR welcomes the grant of bail to Gulfisha Fatima, Meeran Haider, Shifa Ur Rehman, Md. Saleem Khan and Shadab Ahmed, bringing partial relief after prolonged incarceration and expresses grave concern about the denial of bail to Umar Khalid and Sharjeel Imam.

APCR has been closely supporting the legal cases of Meeran Haider, Md. Saleem Khan, Shadab Ahmed, and places on record its sincere gratitude to the lawyers who pursued these matters pro bono with limited resources.

Case Details: FIR 59/2020 PS Crime Branch New Delhi

APCR Facilitates Bail for 7 Arrested Over Palestine Solidarity Posters in Sambhal

APCR facilitated bail for 7 individuals, Asim, Saif Ali, Rahees, Matloob, Fardeen, Arman and Arbaz on April 23, 2025. They had been arrested under sections 170, 126, 135 B.N.S.S., for putting up posters that called for a boycott of Israeli products in solidarity with the Palestinian cause and encouraged the use of Indian products. Advocates Aamir Aslam Khan and Umed Ali provided legal assistance and played a crucial role in facilitating the release of the arrested individuals, who had been arrested without a legitimate reason for criminalising such voices of dissent.

Case Title: State vs Asim and ors

APCR's Struggles leads to Order of Registering FIR Against SP Anuj Choudhary in Sambhal Violence Case

After one year of relentless legal struggle, the court has ordered the registration of an FIR against former Sambhal CO Anuj Chaudhry, along with 12 police personnel, for their role in the 2024 Sambhal Violence. This order stands as a reminder that accountability cannot be buried, delayed, or denied, representing accountability for excessive police force, violations of civil rights, and the deaths of five Muslim men.

Case Title: Miscellaneous Case No. 525 / 2025; Yamin V. Anuj Tomar and Others

APCR SECURES MULTIPLE BAILS FOR SAMBHAL VIOLENCE VICTIMS

APCR has secured bail for Muhammad Azam Khan in three separate cases and one for Suhail, both victims implicated in the Sambhal violence. The Allahabad High Court granted bail despite multiple serious charges under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, including Sections 191(2), 191(3), 190, 221,132, 121(1), 121(2), 109(1), 125, 223(b), and Section 7 of the Criminal Law Amendment Act. Suhail also faced charges under Sections 324(5), 326G, 310(2), and the Public Property Damage Prevention Act. All four bail applications were pursued and argued by Advocate Irshad Ahmad, appearing on behalf of APCR.

Case Details:

1. Muhammad Azam Khan vs State of U.P. (Case No. CRLP/19645 of 2025, Crime No. 334/2024 P.S. Sambhal)
2. Muhammad Azam Khan vs State of U.P. (Case No. CRLP/19048 of 2025, Crime No. 336/2024 P.S. Sambhal)
3. Muhammad Azam Khan vs State of U.P. (Case No. CRLP/18982 of 2025, Crime No. 337/2024 P.S. Sambhal)
4. Suhail vs State of U.P., (Case No. CRLP/16694 of 2025, Crime No. 305/2024 P.S. Nakhasa)



INDIAN MUSLIMS

After APCR's Year-Long Legal Battle, Sambhal Court Orders FIR Against Former CO Anuj Chaudhary, 12 Others

By The Observer Post Published January 13, 2026



APCR Secures Discharge for Two in Jamia Violence Case

On 7 March 2025, the court discharged Mohd. Umar and Muddussir Faheem Hasmee from the 2019 Jamia Violence case, citing insufficient evidence. The accused were solely linked to the case through mobile location data, with no direct evidence or witnesses. APCR argued that suspicion alone cannot justify charges, and the court agreed, affirming that mobile data without corroboration is not sufficient for prosecution.

Case Title: State Vs. Anal Hussain & Ors @ Saket Sessions Court SC No. 116/2020



The screenshot shows the Radiance News website. The main headline is "APCR Secures Acquittal of Two Wrongfully Accused in 2019 Jamia Violence Case" by the Radiance News Bureau, dated March 23, 2025. There are navigation links for "Home", "Latest News", and "APCR Secures Acquittal of Two Wrongfully Accused in 2019 Jamia Violence Case". Below the headline are buttons for "Latest News" and "Report". The website footer includes the URL "www.apcrindia.in", the APCR logo, and social media icons for Facebook, X, and Instagram.

APCR SECURES BAIL FOR VARANASI SOCIAL ACTIVIST ABID SHEIKH

The Association for Protection of Civil Rights (APCR) successfully secured bail for social activist Abid Sheikh, who was booked under multiple sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, and the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. The bail was granted by the Special Court, Varanasi on 3 June, 2025. Senior Advocate Krishna Kumar Dwivedi argued the case for APCR, supported by Advocates Babu Ali Sabri, Shamim Nomani, and activist Nageeb Alam.

Case Crime No: 199/2024



APCR Secures Discharge of Afreen Fatima and Others in Hijab Protest Case

APCR secured a discharge order from the Hon'ble Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate in a FIR registered for peacefully protesting against the hijab ban in educational institutions in Karnataka. Afreen Fatima, Sarah Ahmad Siddiqui, Sabiha Mohani, Md. Zishan Rahmani, Farhan Ahmad, Mohd Saif, and Javed Mohammad were discharged from all charges on May 19, 2025. The court's order brings a close to all legal proceedings against them in this matter. Advocate Osama and Syed Farhan Ahmad represented the accused on behalf of APCR.

FIR No: 38/2022

APCR SECURES BAIL FOR COMMUNAL VIOLENCE VICTIM CHANDA SHAH.

The Allahabad High Court has granted bail to Chanda Shah, a victim of the Shahi, Gaousganj (Bareilly) communal violence. She was booked under multiple provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, including Sections 191(2), 191(3), 190, 115(2), 352, 351(2), 324, and 74.

The bail application was argued by Advocates Gufran Ali, Abad Tyagi, and Noor on behalf of APCR.

Case Crime No: 217, 218/2024,

Police Station: Shahi, Bareilly (U.P).



The screenshot shows the Hindustan Times website. The main headline is "Will invoke hate crime offences in 2021 case: UP govt tells SC". The article text states: "Uttar Pradesh will invoke hate crime laws in a case where a Muslim man alleged torture and abuse linked to his identity, following court directives." The article was published on Feb 17, 2026 03:24 am IST by Abraham Thomas. The website header includes the Hindustan Times logo, navigation links for "Home", "T20 World Cup", "E-Paper", "India News", and "World", and a "Subscribe" button.

Hate Crime Charges to be Invoked in Kazeem Ahmad Sherwani Case

In a petition supported by APCR, 62-year-old Kazeem Ahmad Sherwani approached the Supreme Court seeking action against those who allegedly assaulted and humiliated him in Noida in July 2021, as well as against police officials who initially failed to act on his complaint.

During the proceedings, the Supreme Court directed accountability in the matter, leading to disciplinary action against the concerned police officers and registration of an FIR. In a significant development on 17 February 2026, the Uttar Pradesh Government informed the Court that it would invoke hate crime provisions under Sections 153B and 295A of the IPC in the case, in compliance with the Court's observations.

Case Title: Kazeem Ahmad Sherwani v. State of Uttar Pradesh W.P.(Ctrl.) No. -000391/2021

Bail Granted to Student in Cyber Crime Case

A student from Mira Road, Maharashtra, Shahan Bhati, was tricked by his friends into committing a cybercrime and was subsequently arrested by the Gujarat Police. He was taken to Ahmedabad and booked under Sections 204, 316(2), 318(4), 336(3), 337, 340(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and Sections 66C and 66D of the Information Technology Act, 2000. With the legal assistance of Advocate Abdul Karim Pathan and Gujarat lawyers including Adv Khalid Shaikh and his colleagues, the innocent student was granted bail.

FIR No.: 11191067250021

Police Station: Cyber Crime Police Station, Ahmedabad

Contempt Petition Filed for Hakeem Ajmal Khan Municipal Hospital

The Bombay High Court issued notices to the Thane Municipality and other respondents on a contempt of court petition filed by APCR Maharashtra regarding the Hakeem Ajmal Khan Municipal Hospital. The petition seeks compliance with previous court orders concerning the hospital's functioning and public health standards.

Case Title: APCR & Ors. v. Mr. Saurav Rao & Anr. @ Bombay High Court Contempt Petition No.: 23/2025 (in PIL No. 24/2022)

Retaliatory FIR Stayed by Nagpur Bench of Bombay High Court

In a major interim relief, the Nagpur Bench of the Bombay High Court stayed further proceedings in a retaliatory FIR filed against 32 individuals in Buldhana following communal tensions. The matter arose after the group had initially approached authorities seeking action against objectionable remarks made by a religious leader. Subsequently, a counter-complaint was registered against them. A Division Bench of the High Court has restrained the authorities from filing a charge sheet and granted protection from coercive action until the final hearing. This order ensures that no precipitative steps are taken against the accused while the petition is pending. The interim protection was secured with the intervention of APCR's Buldhana chapter.

Case Title: Shakir Ahmad Khan Mushrif Khan vs. The State of Maharashtra & Anr., Criminal Application (APL) No. 1485 of 2024

Court: Nagpur Bench, Bombay High Court

APCR Opposes Plea to Quash Custodial Violence Case in Buldhana

In an important matter concerning police accountability, the APCR Buldhana chapter is opposing a plea seeking dismissal of criminal charges against a suspended police official accused of custodial violence in Buldhana.

The case relates to the alleged illegal detention and brutal assault of Mateen, an auto-rickshaw driver,

inside a police station. It is alleged that the officer colluded with a private individual to physically attack the victim while in custody. A video of the assault was recorded and later circulated on social media, triggering widespread public outrage and leading to the suspension of the concerned official.

APCR has submitted that the incident constitutes a serious violation of fundamental rights and custodial safeguards. It has argued that quashing the proceedings at this stage would weaken the principle of police accountability and send a troubling message in cases involving abuse of authority and violence against vulnerable citizens.

Case Title: Nandkishor Laxminarayan Tiwari vs. The State of Maharashtra & Anr., Criminal Application (APL) No. 595 of 2025

Writ Petition Filed Against Notices Ordering Loudspeaker Removal

On June 24, 2025, APCR Maharashtra filed a petition in the Bombay High Court challenging the Mumbai Police's orders pressuring mosques to remove loudspeakers used for Azaan, citing noise pollution. Notices had been issued to 359 mosques in Mumbai, creating fear among mosque committees despite their adherence to noise regulations. APCR argued that such selective targeting of mosques violated constitutional rights under Articles 25 and 26.

The petition demanded quashing of these notices and protection for mosques from harassment. The issue was widely reported in Urdu media, highlighting concerns of discrimination and infringement of religious freedom

Case Title: Anjuman Ittehad O Taraqqi Madinah Masjid and Madinatul Islam Darul

Uloom & Ors v. State of Maharashtra & Ors @ Bombay High Court WP/3401/2025



Mosque loudspeaker row heats up

On Monday, five Muslim institutions moved court against the manner in which the police have been removing loudspeakers

Published on: Jun 25, 2025 8:12 AM IST

By Jyoti Punwani



APCR Opposes Plea to Drop Charges in Student Suicide Case

In a sensitive matter involving the death of a minor student, APCR Akola has opposed a petition seeking to drop criminal charges in a case related to alleged institutional harassment.

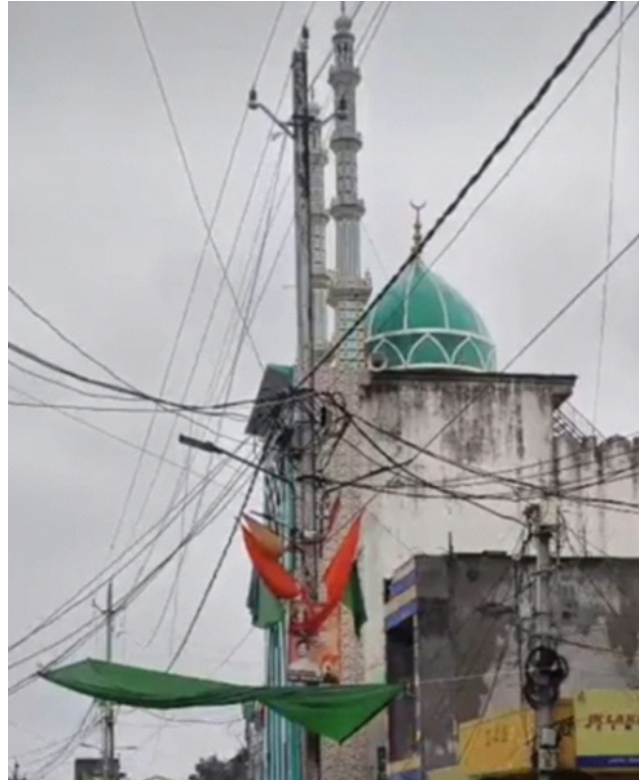
The case concerns a student from a marginalized community who died by suicide, reportedly after facing sustained harassment and corporal punishment within the school environment. APCR has argued that such incidents reflect deeper systemic issues, where vulnerable children are disproportionately subjected to humiliation, violence, and psychological trauma.

The organization has submitted that quashing the proceedings would amount to overlooking serious allegations and would reinforce institutional impunity. By pressing for strict accountability, APCR seeks to uphold the constitutional rights, dignity, and safety of students, and to ensure that educational institutions remain spaces of protection rather than fear.

Case Title: Geeta D/o Pareyaldas Panjwani & Others vs. The State of Maharashtra & Anr. Criminal Application (APL) No. 1385 of 2024

Communal Banners Removed in Ratlam Following APCR Complaint

During Navratri and Eid Milad-un-Nabi in September 2025, banners carrying "Hindu Rashtra" messages were put up across several areas of Ratlam city, raising concerns about attempts to disturb communal harmony. APCR Ratlam President, Advocate Juber Khan, submitted an online complaint to the Director General of Police, Madhya Pradesh, highlighting the potential threat to peace and law and order during the festival period. Following the complaint, the administration acted promptly and removed all objectionable banners within two days. An awareness campaign was also initiated, with over 100 citizens emailing the authorities to ensure such incidents are prevented in the future.



ARBITRARY DEMOLITIONS

Supreme Court Protects 400-Year-Old Mancha Masjid from Full Demolition

In a matter handled by APCR's legal team, the Supreme Court granted relief to the historic Mancha Masjid in Ahmedabad, disposing of the Special Leave Petition challenging its partial demolition for a road-widening project. The Court protected the main mosque structure, measuring around 15 square meters, from demolition. It permitted acquisition of only a limited open area of approximately 80 square meters, including a staircase, plants, and the outer wall, for the development work. The Court also recorded that a nearby temple and several commercial and residential structures are being removed as part of the same project. As a registered Waqf property, the Waqf Board will receive compensation for the acquired land in accordance with law. The matter was argued by APCR's legal team comprising Advocates Warisha Farasat, Kaustubh Chaturvedi, M. Huzaifa, Zeba Afrin, with AOR Yashwant Singh.

Case Title: Mancha Masjid vs. State of Gujarat & Ors. Diary No. 59947/2025 | SLP (C) No. 30200/2025



INDIA

Supreme Court Grants Relief To 400-Year-Old Mancha Masjid, APCR Legal Team Secures Limited Land Acquisition For Road Widening

By The Observer Post Published October 18, 2025



APCR's support in Allahabad HC stops Sambhal admin's attempt to dispossess Azad Jannat Nisha School from its land.

In a writ petition supported by APCR, the Allahabad High Court directed the Uttar Pradesh government not to demolish Azad Jannat Nisha School in Sambhal and restrained authorities from interfering with its functioning. The petition was filed by Manager Mohammad Shahvez Alam, who stated that the land was lawfully purchased through a registered sale deed in 1979. Despite the school operating for decades, parts of the premises were allegedly demolished in May 2025 amid a renewed ownership dispute. The Court ordered status quo and said no action can be taken without due process.

Case Title: Azad Jannat Nisha School vs State Of U.P. And 7 ors @ Court of Civil Judge Junior Division WRIT - C No. - 19551/2025

Demolition Drive Challenged; Relief Secured for 21 Families

In phased petitions filed before the Madhya Pradesh High Court (Jabalpur Bench), APCR secured stay orders against demolition for 21 families, 5 in the first round and 16 in the second. Petitions were subsequently filed for 85 additional families; however, before the scheduled hearing on 12 June 2025, the administration demolished nearly 100 houses. APCR has again approached the High Court seeking stay orders and compensation for the affected families. The matter is pending.

Case Title: X vs. State of Madhya Pradesh & Ors. (Demolition Matter)

APCR Secures Bail for 20 Individuals and 10 Stay Orders Against Punitive Demolitions After Mhow Clashes

APCR secured bail for twenty individuals arrested under Sections 191(2), 296, 115(2), 324(4), 351(2), and 61(2), following communal unrest in Mhow, Madhya Pradesh, during a rally celebrating India's ICC Champions Trophy victory that turned violent. Tensions were sparked by Loud music and inflammatory slogans being played in front of Jama Masjid. Tarique Sheikh (Indore District President), Adil Saied (APCR Secretary), Sadab Qureshi (Media Spokesperson), and the APCR Indore team provided immediate legal protection and relief. Stay orders were obtained for ten homes, preventing their illegal punitive demolition post the violence on April 19, 2025.

FIR No.: 0137/2025

Police Station: Mhow, MP

Stay on Demolition of Historic Dargah and Mosque in Ratlam

In Ratlam's Jaora Road area, the administration initiated demolition proceedings against the centuries-old Pehalwan Shah Baba Dargah and its mosque complex, labelling it as an encroachment. This was even though the dargah and mosque have been registered with various administrative departments for over 50 years, with all legal documents in place. Amid pressure from some local Muslim leaders who allegedly negotiated with authorities to relocate the dargah, APCR's legal team, including Advocate Mohammad Zuber Khan Barkati, Advocate Shahid Khan, and Advocate Zaheeruddin, intervened and took the matter to court. The court granted a stay order in favour of the dargah, maintaining the status quo and halting the demolition.

Case Title: Mazhar Khadim Pahalwan Shah Baba Dargah and ors vs State of MP @Ratlam session court Case No 337/2024

Writ Petition Filed Challenging Punitive Demolition in Jharkhand

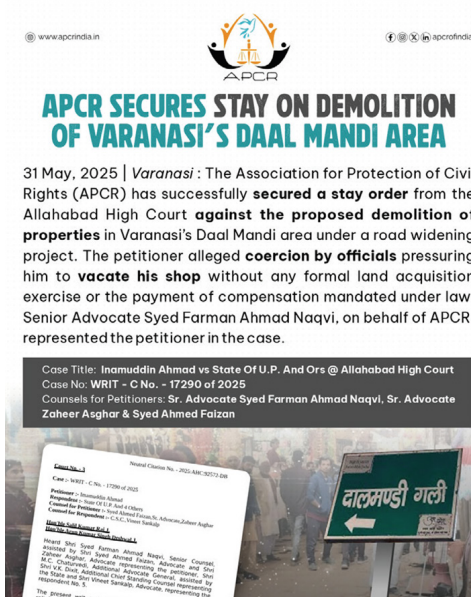
Md. Rashid filed a writ petition before the Jharkhand High Court seeking directions to lodge an FIR against government officials (Respondent Nos. 6 to 9) for demolishing his building with a JCB without any valid reason, demanding Rs. 1,00,000 from his son, and upon refusal, illegally arresting and assaulting him using vulgar language. Advocates Mokhtar Khan and Talat Perween represented the petitioner on behalf of APCR, seeking a fair investigation and strict legal action against those responsible.

Case Title: Md. Rashid Vs The State of Jharkhand @Jharkhand High Court W.P.(Cr.)127/2025

Demolition of Varanasi's Daal Mandi Area Halted After Court Stay

On May 31, 2025, APCR secured a stay order from the Allahabad High Court against the proposed demolition of properties in Varanasi's Daal Mandi area under a road widening project. The petitioner alleged that officials were coercing him to vacate his shop without any formal land acquisition process or compensation as mandated by law. The case was argued by Senior Advocate Syed Farman Ahmad Naqvi, along with Senior Advocate Zaheer.

Case: Inamuddin Ahmad vs State Of U.P. And Ors @ Allahabad High Court WRIT - C No. - 17290 of 2025



APCR Secures High Court Stay, Prevents Demolition of Poor Families' Homes

Indore: The Association for Protection of Civil Rights (APCR) has successfully halted proposed bulldozer demolitions in a locality of Indore after obtaining a stay order from the Indore Bench of the Madhya Pradesh High Court. The demolition notices had reportedly targeted around ten houses in the area, where families have been residing for nearly 120 years. In connection with the incident, Mehboob and the son of a house owner were arrested on allegations of assault. The arrests further deepened the anxiety within the community.

APCR's Indore legal team intervened and approached the High Court, which granted a stay on the demolition action. As a result, the affected families are currently able to remain in their homes.

Case Details: Writ Petition No. 11512 of 2025; Gafur Ali Versus Union of India and Others; Writ Petition No. 10610 of 2025; Jamila Bi Versus Union of India Through Secretary and Others.

1 WP-10610-2025
 IN THE HIGH COURT OF MADHYA PRADESH
 AT INDORE
 BEFORE
 HON'BLE SHRI JUSTICE PRANAY VERMA
 ON THE 21st OF MARCH, 2025
 WRIT PETITION No. 10610 of 2025
 JAMILA BI
 Versus
 UNION OF INDIA THROUGH SECRETARY AND OTHERS

Appearance:
Shri Kuldeep Pathak, learned counsel for the petitioner.
Shri Tarun Pagare, learned counsel for the respondent/State.

ORDER

1. This writ petition has been filed by the petitioner under Article 226 of the Constitution of India seeking the following reliefs:-

- "(a) To allow this petition by issuing appropriate writ, direction or order and to direct the respondents to not to carry out any demolition activity in relation to land and building situated at Eastern Part of House/Plot No.3100, Near Kali Mandir, Mhow, Tehsil - Mhow, District Indore (M.P.) admeasuring 267.8 square feet, without following due process of law; and
- (b) To direct the respondents not to dispossess the petitioner from the above mentioned land, without following due process of law, which the petitioner is holding as valid title holder; and
- (c) To direct the respondents to comply with the directions issued by the Hon'ble Apex Court in the matter of In Re: Directions in the matter of demolition of structures, reported as 2024 INSC 866, before taking any action of demolition in relation to above mentioned structure of the petitioner; and
- (d) Any other relief which this Hon'ble Court deems fit to be issued "

1 WP-11512-2025
 IN THE HIGH COURT OF MADHYA PRADESH
 AT INDORE
 BEFORE
 HON'BLE SHRI JUSTICE PRANAY VERMA
 ON THE 28th OF MARCH, 2025
 WRIT PETITION No. 11512 of 2025
 GAFUR ALI
 Versus
 UNION OF INDIA AND OTHERS

Appearance:
Shri Mayank Raghawanshi, learned counsel for the petitioner.

ORDER

1. This writ petition has been filed by the petitioner under Article 226 of the Constitution of India seeking the following reliefs:-

- "(a) To allow this petition by issuing appropriate writ, direction or order and to direct the respondents to not to carry out any demolition activity in relation to land and building situated at House No.1392 and 1393, Dhanjesh Marg, Near Moti Mahal Cinema, Akbar Ka Takiya, Mhow, Tehsil Mhow, District Indore (M.P.), without following due process of law; and
 - (b) To direct the respondents not to dispossess the petitioner from the above mentioned land, without following due process of law, which the petitioner is holding as valid title holder; and
 - (c) To direct the respondents to comply with the directions issued by the Hon'ble Apex Court in the matter of In Re: Directions in the matter of demolition of structures, reported as 2024 INSC 866, before taking any action of demolition in relation to above mentioned structure of the petitioner; and
 - (d) Any other relief which this Hon'ble Court deems fit to be issued."
2. The petitioner is aggrieved by the action of the respondents



DOCUMENTATION

The Association for Protection of Civil Rights (APCR) carries out fact-finding visits across India whenever incidents of communal violence, hate crimes, or serious legal injustice take place. These visits are not symbolic. They are meant to understand what really happened on the ground, listen directly to those affected, and ensure that the truth does not get buried.

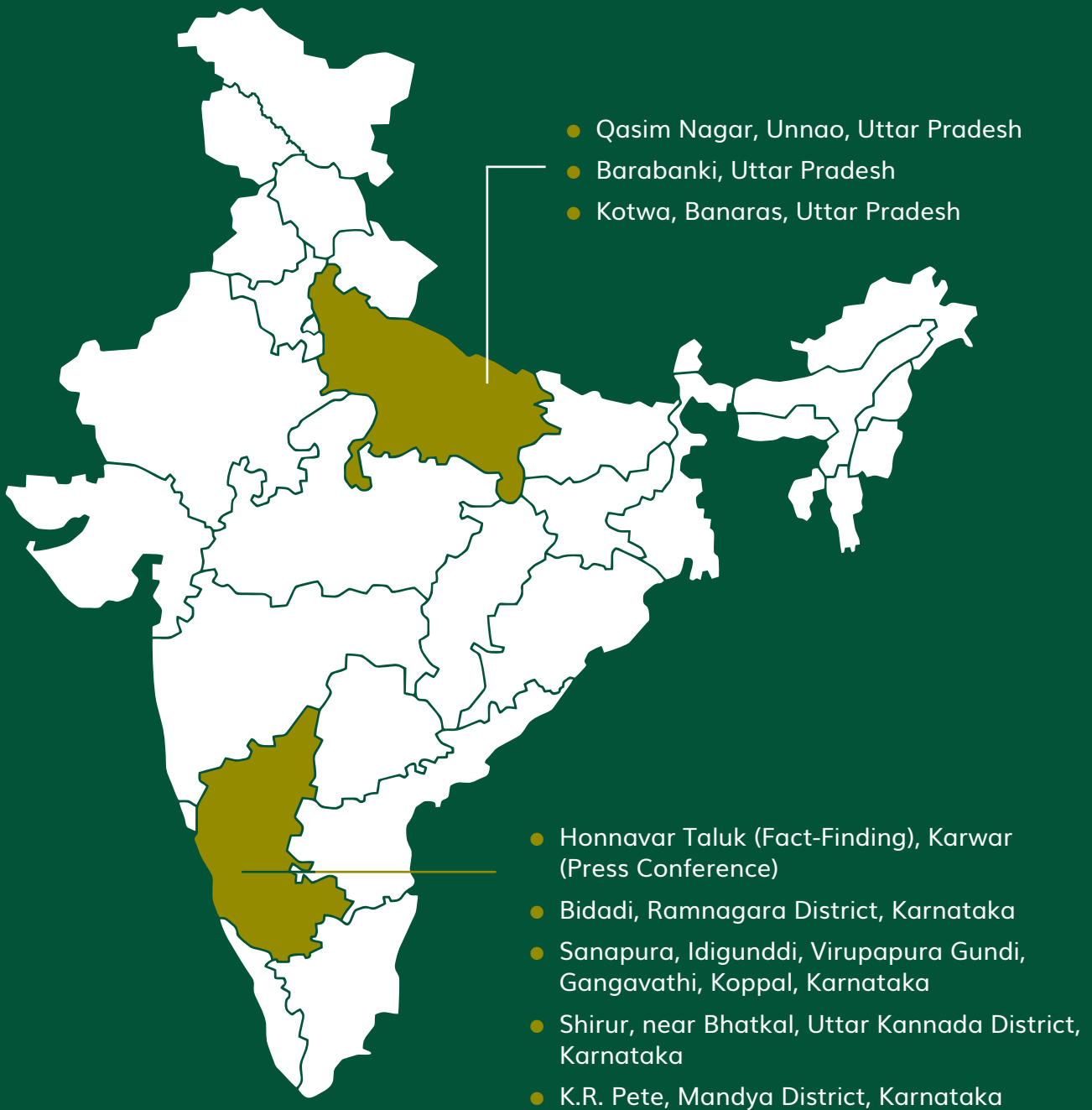
APCR teams usually include lawyers, social activists, and community representatives. They meet victims and witnesses, record testimonies, review police action, and observe court proceedings where needed. If families are struggling to access legal help, APCR steps in to connect them with lawyers and provide support. The aim is simple: make sure victims are heard and treated fairly under the law.

In recent months, APCR has conducted fact-finding visits in states such as Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra. These included cases like the assault on an Imam in Lucknow, communal tensions during religious processions, the "I Love Muhammad" protests in Bareilly, and other instances of targeted attacks against individuals and communities.

In several of these cases, the teams documented troubling patterns, delayed police response, selective action, and signs of bias. Based on their findings, APCR has pursued legal remedies, filed representations, and raised public awareness to push for accountability.

Between January and December 2025, APCR conducted over 30 fact-finding visits across several states. These included investigations into communal violence, unlawful demolitions, custodial deaths, caste-based atrocities, and the misuse of power by local authorities. APCR teams met with victims and witnesses, collected testimonies, and documented the situation through photos, interviews, and legal review. Some of the major fact-finding efforts included reports on the events that had unfolded.





Fact Finding Visits

Investigation Initiated into Suspicious Death of Mohammad Sharif on Holi in Unnao

Case: FIR No. 207/2025

Police Station: Kotwali, Unnao

On March 15, 2025, APCR investigated the suspicious death of Mohammad Sharif (48) following a Holi dispute in Qasim Nagar, Unnao. His family alleges he was attacked for resisting, while police claim he died from a fall while running. Preliminary findings indicated that Sharif was forcibly pulled from his rickshaw and slapped, after which he ran away frightened and collapsed due to extreme stress and fear. Although no visible injuries were found, neighbours confirmed that he was physically assaulted. An FIR (207/2025) has been registered at Kotwali police station under Sections 105, 352, and 190 (BNS) against Kisan, Amarpal, Munnu, and Sanjay.



Visit Conducted to Examine Detention of Children in Custody in Banaras

APCR conducted a fact-finding visit in Kotwa, Banaras, regarding the detention of minor children accused of mischievously targeting a hanging street bulb with stones. The incident was misrepresented by individuals with a communal mindset as stone pelting at a Hindu household, leading to the unlawful detention of Muslim children.



Tourist Harassment Incidents investigated in Karnataka

On March 20, 2025, a team from APCR Karnataka, including Adv. Sudhir Kumar (State President), Adv. Akhila Vidya (Vice President), Adv. Mohammed Niyaz (General Secretary), Hussain (Secretary), and Ashfaq (President, APCR Koppal Unit), visited Sanapura, Idigunddi, Virupapura Gundi, and Gangavathi in Koppal district to conduct a fact-finding review of recent incidents of tourist harassment in these areas.

Investigation into Government Occupation on Waqf Land in Gorakhpur

APCR conducted a fact-finding visit in Kada Dham, Gorakhpur, regarding the occupation of Waqf land by the district administration, specifically the Deputy Director of Consolidation (DDC). The visit aimed to document the encroachment and gather evidence for potential legal intervention to protect Waqf properties from illegal administrative takeover.

Probe Launched into Detention of Fishermen by Authorities in Honnavar Taluk

On February 8, 2025, APCR Karnataka Chapter conducted a fact-finding visit to Honnavar Taluk to investigate the arrest of 24 fishermen leaders who were opposing the construction of a port at 'Kasarkod Tonka'. Following the visit, APCR held a press conference in Karwar, raising questions about the port project, its environmental impact, and the false charges under which the fishermen leaders were arrested. Senior Advocate B.T. Venkatesh and other APCR representatives were present to address the media and assure legal and advocacy support to the affected community.

Visit Conducted to Investigate Assault on Minor Girl in Barabanki

Crime No: 16/2023

APCR conducted a fact-finding visit in Barabanki district regarding the brutal assault of a 5-year-old girl in Crime No. 16/2023, registered at Ram Nagar Police Station. The team investigated the circumstances of the incident to ensure justice and to provide legal and social support for the victim's family.



Team Conducts Visit in Connection with Dalit Suicide Case

On May 27, 2025, an APCR fact-finding team visited Bidadi in Ramnagara district to investigate a recent Dalit suicide case. The team met with the victim's family members, local residents, community leaders, and law enforcement officials, including the SP of Ramnagara. The delegation included APCR Executive Member BT Venkatesh, General Secretary Mohammad Niyaz, Executive Members Mallige Sirimane and Harsha Kumar Kugwe, and National Research and Documentation Coordinator Prakriti. The visit aimed to gather facts, document the incident, and inform APCR's future legal and advocacy interventions.



Visit conducted after Dalit man was burned alive

On May 27, 2025, an APCR fact-finding team visited K.R. Pete in Mandya district to investigate a recent Dalit atrocity involving a live burning incident. The team met with the victim's family members, local residents, community leaders, and law enforcement officials, including the DYSP of Mandya. The delegation included APCR Executive Member BT Venkatesh, General Secretary Mohammad Niyaz, Executive Members Mallige Sirimane and Harsha Kumar Kugwe, and National Research and Documentation Coordinator Prakriti.

Team Visited Campus in Response to Student Assault Case

On May 15, 2025, the APCR Bhatkal team, led by Yunus Ruknuddin, visited the residence of Arfaque S/o Imran Abu Husaina in Moosa Nagar, Bhatkal, after a video went viral showing him being brutally beaten by a lecturer at Green Valley PU College, Shirur. The team met with the student's aunt and uncle, gathered details of the incident, and provided legal guidance, advising the family to seek justice and raise their voice against the assault.

Fact-Finding in Kathgodam Over Forced Renaming of Muslim-Owned Shops

14th July 2025, Kathodam

In Kathgodam, Haldwani, APCR conducted a fact-finding after Muslim shopkeepers reported that their shop names were forcibly changed by local BJP leaders. The team, comprising Shadab Alam, Srishti, and Koshik, met with all affected shopkeepers, documented their statements, and gathered details of the incidents. APCR is monitoring the situation and extending necessary legal support to ensure the rights and dignity of the shopkeepers are protected.



Communal Targeting in Nainital After Pahalgam Attack

15th July 2025, Nainital

Following the Pahalgam attack, incidents of targeted violence were reported in Nainital, where Muslims were allegedly stopped in public spaces, asked their names to identify their religion, and assaulted. A mosque in the area was also attacked during the unrest. APCR took note of the incidents, gathered preliminary information from affected persons, and is closely monitoring the situation to ensure accountability and protection of fundamental rights.



Lynching of a 12th-standard student in Fatehpur

26th July 2025, Fatehpur

In July 2025, APCR took note of the brutal killing of 17-year-old Mohd. Arish in Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh. Arish, a Class 12 student of Maharshi Vidya Mandir, was attacked near Kashiram Colony on July 23 while returning home from school. According to his family, three young men were waiting for him with sticks and rods and assaulted him repeatedly, leading to fatal injuries. He was initially taken to Sadar Hospital, Fatehpur, and later shifted to Kanpur, where he passed away on July 24 during treatment. An FIR (No. 0291/2025) was registered at Kotwali Police Station. Two accused have been arrested, while one remains absconding. The family has alleged that the attack stemmed from an earlier dispute and has demanded strict action. APCR is closely monitoring the investigation and extending legal assistance to ensure accountability and justice for the victim's family.



Assault on the Maqbara in Fatehpur

11th August 2025, Fatehpur

In August 2025, tensions flared in Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh, after members of several Hindu organisations vandalised Maqbara Mangi in Abu Nagar, claiming the registered tomb (Khasra No. 753, recorded as National Property) was originally a temple. Large gatherings attempted to perform puja at the site, leading to stone pelting between groups and serious law-and-order concerns. The district administration deployed heavy police and PAC forces, conducted flag marches, and removed flags placed atop the structure to prevent escalation. Senior officials monitored the situation, and peace appeals were issued by community leaders.

Evictions in Assam: A Field Report

23-24 August 2025, Assam

On 23 - 24 August 2025, a team comprising of Harsh Mander, Prashant Bhushan, Jawahar Sircar, Syeda Hameed, Wajahat Habibullah, Ritumbra Manuviel and Fawaz Shaheen visited Gawahati, Goalpara and Kamrup districts in Assam to listen to people who had been displaced by various eviction drives being carried out by the state government in the last two months.



Clash During “I Love Mohammad” Procession in Kashipur

22nd September 2025, Kashipur

In 2025, communal tension erupted in Kashipur during an “I Love Mohammad” procession, leading to arrests and a sweeping FIR. A total of 35 persons were arrested, including 11 minors, while around 500 unnamed individuals were also booked. APCR intervened to monitor the legal process, ensure that minors received appropriate legal safeguards, and extend necessary legal assistance to affected families. The team is closely following the case to prevent misuse of law and to safeguard the rights of those implicated.



Communal Arrests Over Religious Banner in Kanpur

29th September 2025, Kanpur

In Kanpur, several individuals were arrested following a dispute over a banner reading “I Love Muhammad S.A.W.” The arrests were widely alleged to be communal in nature, raising concerns about selective targeting and misuse of law. APCR intervened in the matter, reached out to the affected families, gathered facts on the circumstances of the arrests, and began coordinating legal assistance. The organization is monitoring the proceedings to ensure that due process is followed and that no individual is unfairly prosecuted on account of religious expression

Police Excess & Communal Arrests in Bareilly

5th October 2025, Bareilly

In Bareilly, APCR intervened in two related incidents involving alleged police excess and communal targeting. Concerns were raised over the excessive use of force by police authorities, as well as the arrest of individuals over a banner displaying the words “I Love Muhammad S.A.W.” APCR took cognizance of the matter, engaged with affected families, and examined the legal grounds of the arrests. The organization extended legal assistance and began monitoring the proceedings to ensure that due process is followed and that no action is taken in a discriminatory or arbitrary manner.



Brutal Murder of 7-Year-Old Child in Azamgarh

14th October 2025, Azamgarh

In Azamgarh, APCR intervened following the brutal murder of a 7-year-old child that deeply shocked the local community. A fact-finding team reached the area, met the grieving family, and gathered details about the incident and the police response. APCR engaged with local authorities to ensure a fair and transparent investigation, closely monitored the progress of the case, and assured the family of full legal assistance to pursue justice.



Hate Speech During Religious Procession in Gorakhpur

14th October 2025, Gorakhpur

On 14 October 2025, APCR took cognisance of hate speech delivered against the minority community during a religious procession in Gorakhpur. The remarks, made publicly during the event, raised serious concerns about incitement and communal tension. APCR initiated follow-up action to document the incident, seek accountability, and pursue appropriate legal remedies to ensure that those responsible are held accountable under the law.



Communal Tension in Ahilyanagar During Navratri Procession

18th October 2025, Ahilyanagar

After communal tension erupted in Ahilyanagar over graffiti on a roadside rangoli during a Navratri 'Durga Daud' procession, APCR Maharashtra sent a team to visit the site and assess the situation. Four FIRs were registered, including cases related to the alleged graffiti, an attack on a youth, the alleged throwing of meat during the procession, and a rasta roko involving over 150 persons. Police conducted a mild lathi charge to disperse the crowd. According to the District Superintendent of Police, 34 individuals have been arrested, and the situation is under control. APCR continues to monitor the matter.



Fact-Finding Visit After Demolition Drive in Mumbra

18th October 2025, Mumbra

On 18 October 2025, following a large-scale demolition drive carried out by the Thane Municipal Corporation (TMC) against alleged illegal residential structures in Mumbra, APCR Maharashtra conducted a site visit. The team met affected families, assessed the ground situation, and documented details of the demolition process. APCR initiated follow-up action to examine the legality of the drive and to extend necessary legal support to impacted residents.



Mob Assault on Driver Nasir in Ramnagar

28th October 2025, Ramnagar

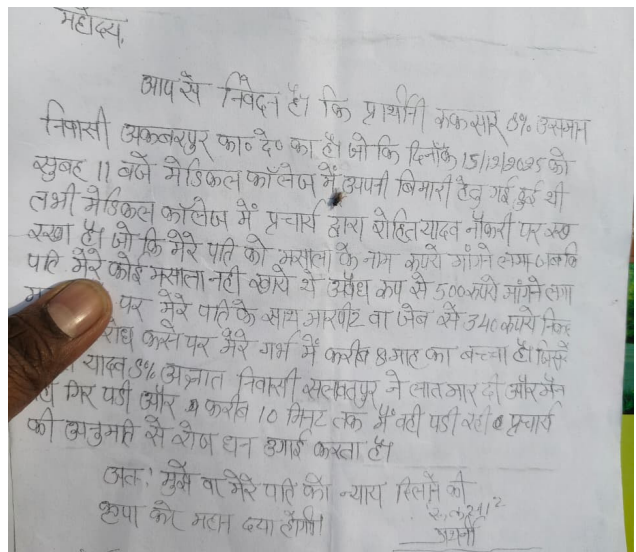
On 28 October 2025, in Ramnagar, a Muslim driver named Nasir was transporting buffalo meat when members of the Bajrang Dal accused him of carrying cow meat and attacked him. He was brutally assaulted by a mob and sustained serious injuries in the incident. APCR is extending legal assistance and closely monitoring the case to ensure accountability and protection of his rights.



Hate Crime: Assault on Eight-Month Pregnant Woman in Kanpur

18th December 2025, Kanpur

On 18 December 2025, APCR took cognisance of a hate crime incident in Kanpur involving the assault of an eight-month pregnant woman. The organisation began immediate intervention by gathering preliminary facts, coordinating with local representatives, and initiating steps to ensure medical care and legal protection for the survivor. APCR is monitoring the matter closely to ensure that the FIR is properly registered, relevant charges are invoked, and no pressure is exerted on the victim's family. The organisation has assured full legal support and will continue to pursue accountability in the case.



Mass Dispossession of 300+ Families in Aali Village, New Delhi

21st December, Aali Village

On 21 December 2025, APCR's fact-finding team visited Aali village in Sarita Vihar, Okhla, where more than 300 families were rendered homeless following action taken in execution of a 1975 decree by the Saket District Court in a land dispute with the UP Irrigation Department. Despite long-term possession of the land, residents were forcibly dispossessed, and several homes were sealed amid heavy police deployment during the peak of Delhi's winter.

Electricity and water supply were cut off, compelling families, mostly daily wage labourers, to survive in tents in freezing conditions. Children, pregnant women, and elderly residents were left exposed to harsh weather, leading to multiple health complications. The fact-finding team comprising Advocates M. Huzaifa, Abdul Wahab Khan, Amaan Siddiqui, Mohd Saad Khan, and journalists Asrar Ahmad and Ahmadullah documented the situation and initiated follow-up for necessary legal and humanitarian intervention.



Ground Report on Communal Provocation and Violence

APCR Belagavi District prepared a detailed ground report on communal incidents in Santibastwad village, Belagavi. The fact-finding was conducted by APCR team members MH Saraf (President), RB Mali (Secretary), and Riyaz Ahmed (Member). The report documents a series of communal provocations between March and May 2025. These include an interfaith marriage that triggered tensions, the desecration of an Idgah, and the burning of Islamic holy books at an under-construction mosque. Santibastwad, a village of over 6,000 people including Hindu, Christian, and around 300 Muslim residents, had maintained peaceful coexistence before these events. The findings highlight communal polarization, gaps in law enforcement, and an urgent need for initiatives to restore peace and harmony in the area.

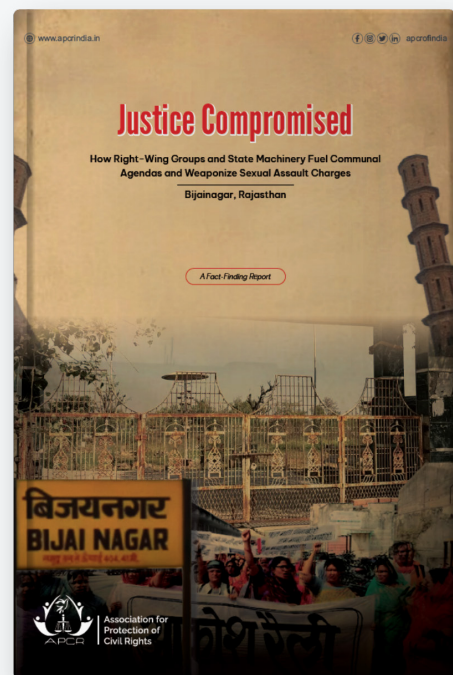


BIJAINAGAR DEMOLITIONS

APCR's fact-finding team visited Bijainagar, Rajasthan, in February 2025, following communal tensions and punitive demolitions under the guise of "love jihad." The team met with victims and provided legal support, successfully halting the demolition notices issued against the mosque committee, highlighting the importance of legal defense in the face of state-sanctioned violence.



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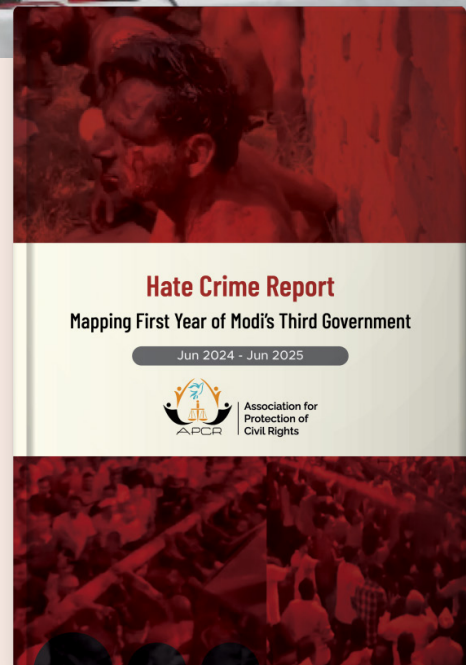


REPORT ON HATE CRIMES AND HATE SPEECH: MAPPING FIRST YEAR OF MODI'S THIRD GOVERNMENT

The Association for Protection of Civil Rights (APCR) has released a report titled "Hate Crime Tracker: Mapping the First Year of Modi's Third Government", documenting incidents of hate crimes and hate speech **between June 7, 2024, and June 7, 2025**. The report is the product of a year-long effort by researchers and fieldworkers from APCR. The data was mainly collected through **secondary sources**. Incidents were verified using **triangulated data** from news reports, social media, and when required, field visits.

Key Findings

1. **947 total incidents documented:**
 - **602 hate crimes and 345 hate speech incidents**
2. **173 hate crimes involved physical violence against minorities**
3. **25 attacks led to 29 deaths — all victims were Muslim**
4. **25 Hindu individuals were injured or suffered property damage as bystanders**
5. **178 of 345 hate speech cases were by individuals linked to the BJP**
6. **BJP-ruled states reported higher hate crime rates: Uttar Pradesh had the most (217 cases), followed by Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttarakhand**



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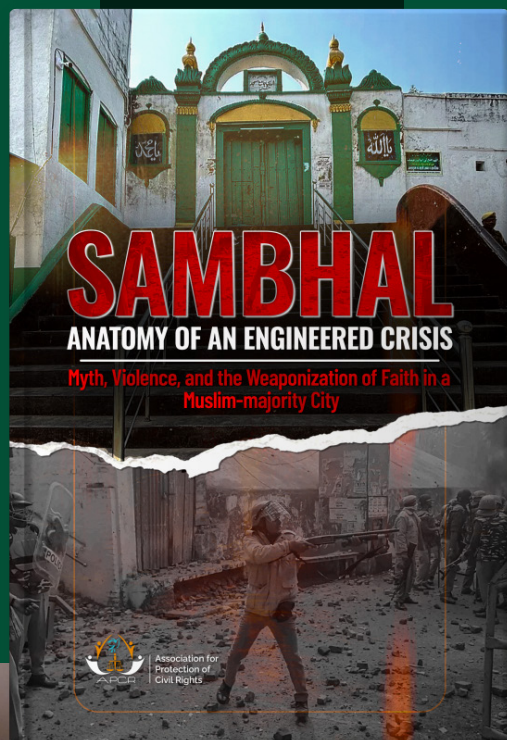
Fact Finding Report on SAMBHAL VIOLENCE

APCR released its latest fact-finding report titled "Sambhal: Anatomy of an Engineered Crisis". The report traces how Sambhal, a town historically known for its Islamic heritage and as the prophesied birthplace of Kalki in Hindu belief, has been turned into a site of religious contestation. This report is part of APCR's continued efforts to document and challenge communal violence, hate crimes, and state-enabled marginalisation of minorities in India.

The Association for Protection of Civil Rights (APCR), in collaboration with Karwan-e-Mohabbat, released its latest fact-finding report titled "Sambhal: Anatomy of an Engineered Crisis" along with the documentary "Sambhal Mosque Killings" by Karwan-e-Mohabbat on 01 July 2025. Many speakers emphasised that what unfolded in Sambhal is not an isolated incident, but part of a systematic effort to suppress minority rights and rewrite historical memory through force and fear.



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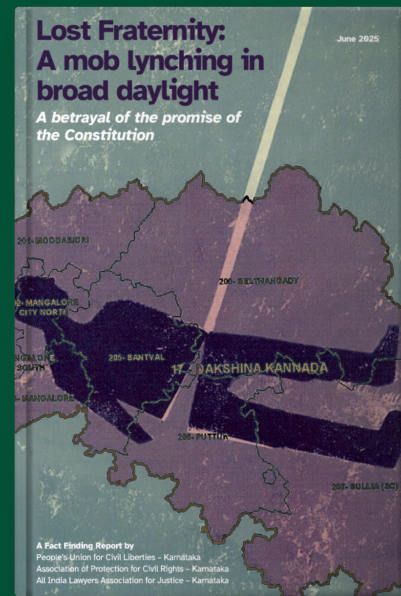


LOST FRATERNITY: A MOB LYNCHING IN BROAD DAYLIGHT A BETRAYAL OF THE PROMISE OF THE CONSTITUTION

The fact-finding report on the incident of mob-lynching of Mohammed Ashraf at Kudupu, Mangalore, was released here at the Press Club on 28th June 2025. This fact finding was jointly done by People's Union for Civil Liberties – Karnataka, All India Lawyers Association for Justice – Karnataka, Association for Protection of Civil Rights – Karnataka. Five days after the Pahalgam attack, on 27th of April, a 39-year-old resident of Kerala, was murdered by a mob in Kudupu village, Mangalore. On the day of his killing, his body was found by the local police on the kachha road between the Bhatarhalli Devasthanam and a cricket ground.



SCAN QR TO DOWNLOAD



Demolition of Sat Pir Dargah and Arrests in Nashik

On April 22, a delegation comprising representatives from APCR, United Against Injustice and Discrimination, and Jamaat-e-Islami Hind Maharashtra visited Nashik to investigate the demolition of the historic Sat Pir Dargah and the arrest of over 50 local Muslims. The delegation found that the 450-square-yard dargah had been completely razed, its debris cleared, and the area barricaded under heavy police presence.

The delegation met Additional Police Commissioner Shri Bichchhao, submitted a memorandum demanding release of innocents, arrest of real culprits, and maintenance of law and order. Local Muslim lawyers are providing free legal support, and efforts are underway to quash wrongful FIRs in the High Court. The delegation also consulted local legal leaders for further strategy and plans to seek advice from APCR Maharashtra President Retd. Justice Abhay Thipsay.



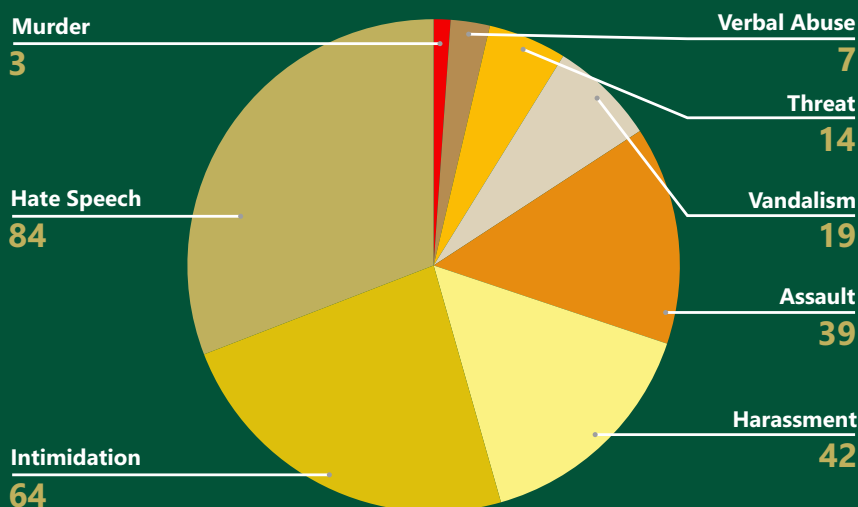
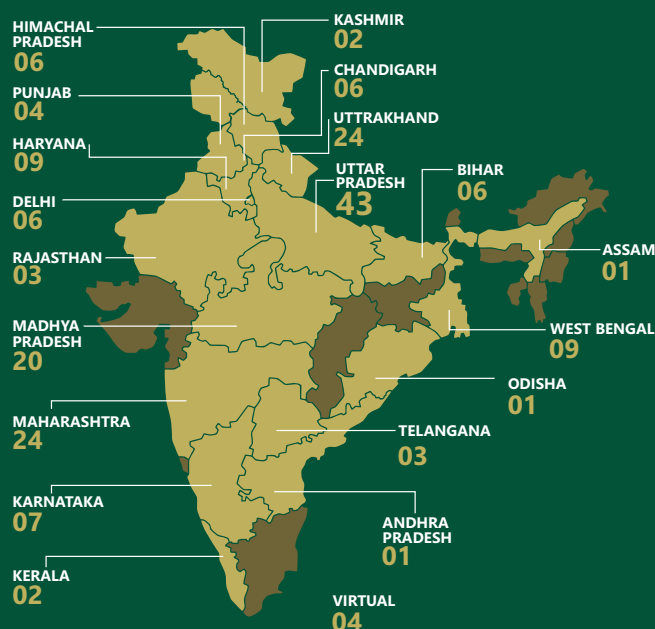
Report on Anti-Muslim Violence Spiked Post Pahalgam Terror Attack

Pahalgam terror attack spiked incidents of hate crime targeted at Muslims. This is an updated version of the previous report, with incidents dating from 22 April 2025 to 8 May 2025. To access data about hate crime incidents, kindly scan the QR.

184 hate crimes were reported across India. 106 of these were linked to the Pahalgam terror attack, with the latter serving as the triggering factor. A minimum of 316 individuals were affected, physically or otherwise; this figure is an estimate and the actual number is likely higher due to underreporting and lack of documentation. The acts had common patterns that were neither random nor isolated.

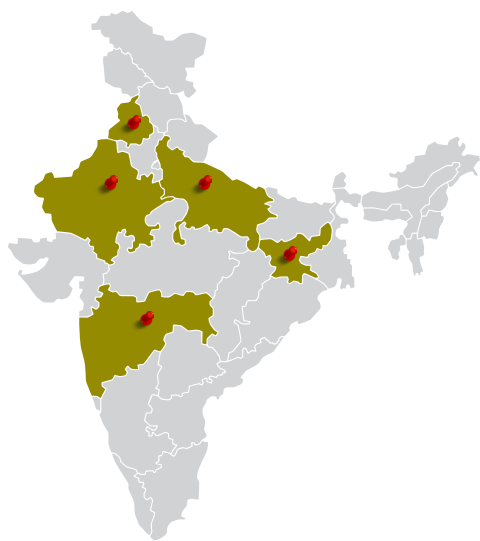
The incidents were widespread. **Uttar Pradesh bore witness to the highest number of incidents followed by Bihar, Maharashtra, Delhi, and Telangana.** Other states like Karnataka, Punjab, Chandigarh, and West Bengal experienced serious cases. The nature of hate crimes indicates a nationally resonant atmosphere of hostility and not, local anomalies.

84 hate speeches. 39 assaults. 19 vandalisms. 3 Murders. These are broad numbers to categorize hate crimes. Most incidents were a mix of different types of hate crimes. Hence, many incidents were categorized and attributed to different hate crimes.



Rising Hate Crimes Documented During Holi 2025

This year's Holi was marked by a disturbing rise in targeted hate crimes across India, particularly against Muslim and Dalit communities. A consistent pattern emerged, attacks on mosques, caste-based violence, mob intimidation, and the open display of hate speech, often enabled or overlooked by state authorities. APCR mapped these incidents to highlight the coordinated nature of the violence and the role of both mobs and authorities in enabling it. The documentation focused not only on physical attacks but also on symbolic



acts, such as covering mosques, blasting provocative music, and forced participation in Holi rituals, that collectively contributed to an atmosphere of fear and exclusion.

The violence was geographically widespread. Uttar Pradesh recorded the highest number of incidents, followed by Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Punjab.

Fact-finding Report on Uttarakhand Violence

APCR's fact-finding team visited multiple districts across Uttarakhand between 2024 and 2025 following a series of communal incidents, targeted violence, evictions, and demolitions affecting Muslim communities. The team met with victims in Uttarkashi, Nainital, Chamoli, Kashipur and other affected areas, documented testimonies, examined official notices and FIRs, and assessed the broader pattern of administrative and vigilante action. The report highlights how allegations such as "love jihad," "land jihad," and claims of illegal encroachment were used to justify economic boycotts, forced displacement, demolition drives, and intimidation. APCR extended legal assistance in several cases, intervened before authorities and courts where necessary, and emphasized the urgent need to uphold constitutional protections and prevent collective punishment under the guise of law and order.





PUBLIC ADVOCACY

APCR's public advocacy work in the last six months focused on responding to major issues affecting minorities and civil liberties. With increasing restrictions on protests, growing hate speech in the media, and government actions targeting religious institutions, APCR worked to bring attention to these problems through events, meetings, and media outreach.

Challenging the UMEED Act: APCR's Legal and Grassroots Battle to Protect Waqf

The Unified Waqf Management, Empowerment, Efficiency and Development (UMEED) Act, 2024 represents one of the most far-reaching overhauls of Waqf governance in India's recent history. While presented as a modernisation initiative, the amendments introduced by the Act have triggered alarm across civil society, minority communities, and legal experts. At the centre of this concern lies one key question: Who gets to control Muslim religious endowments in India?

The Act allows the central government greater control over Waqf institutions, removes legal protections, and dilutes the Muslim character of Waqf Boards and the Central Waqf Council. For many, it signals a deeper erosion of religious autonomy, legal recognition, and community ownership.

To combat the far-reaching implications of the UMEED Act, APCR launched a two-pronged response, firstly through legal action, and secondly through widespread public mobilisation.



It provides for management of property for religious and charitable purposes. Keeping aside a property for charitable purposes, one need not prove the asset to be an 'essential part of religion.'

He added, "If the Government lays a claim over a 300-year-old waqf property, then till the time the designated officer decides the dispute for 20-30 years, the property cannot be used as Waqf."

Senior Advocate C.U. Singh

representing APCR, iterated in court, referring to Article 26





APCR Takes the Fight to Court

On 5 April 2025, the **Association for Protection of Civil Rights (APCR)** filed a writ petition before the **Hon'ble Supreme Court of India** challenging the **UMEED Act**. The petition calls for the entire Amendment to be **struck down** for violating **Articles 14, 25, 26, 29, and 30** of the Indian Constitution.

The petition highlights that:

- **Waqf is a religious institution rooted in Islamic law**, functioning as a perpetual charitable trust for the benefit of the community.
- The Act's **renaming and structural changes** are reminiscent of colonial strategies aimed at erasing indigenous legal frameworks.
- The **inclusion of non-Muslims in Waqf Boards and decision-making** violates the constitutional right of religious communities to manage their own institutions.
- Unlike Muslim institutions, **non-Muslim charities are not forced** to accept outsiders in their internal affairs—making this a clear case of **discriminatory targeting**.
- The **removal of Section 3(r)** and weakening of the "Waqf-by-user" doctrine **opens religious properties to state takeover and endless litigation**.

The petition also challenges the **centralisation of rule-making powers**, which were previously held by states, and the removal of key protective clauses like **Section 104**, the override clause that ensured Waqf law prevailed in case of conflict with other laws.

On 17 April 2025, the **Supreme Court** issued an interim relief order:

- **Status quo** on key provisions was maintained.
- The **Centre conceded** that **non-Muslims would not be appointed** to Waqf Boards during the pendency of the case.
- The **de-notification of existing Waqf properties** (including Waqf-by-user) was **halted**.

Legal Team: Sr. Adv. C.U. Singh, Adv. Adeel Ahmad (AOR), Adv. Katyayani Suhurd, Adv. Taqdees Fatima, Adv. M. Huzaifa, and others

Case Title: *Association for Protection of Civil Rights vs Union of India & Ors*

Case No.: W.P. (C) No. 286/2025 (PIL-W)

The court provided only **partial relief**. It paused some provisions, but the broader architecture of the Act remained intact. Across the country, APCR organised and participated in a series of events to mobilise public opinion, bring civil society together, and challenge the government's narrative.

A Nationwide Mobilisation

Consultation Meeting in Delhi

On 12 April, APCR and Indian Muslims for Civil Rights (IMCR) co-hosted a high-level consultation that brought together public intellectuals, lawyers, former ministers, and activists. Among the participants were Salman Khurshid, Harsh Mander, John Dayal, and Syed Sadatullah Husaini. The speakers warned that the UMEED Act threatens the federal structure of India, violates religious freedom, and sets a dangerous precedent for minority institutions.





Public Meeting: Protecting Waqf Lands

Held on 22 May at the India Islamic Cultural Centre, this well-attended public meeting drew nearly 600 participants. Civil society leaders raised concerns over encroachments, illegal acquisition of Waqf land, and administrative neglect. They called the UMEED Act a direct attack on constitutional protections.

Press Conference & Grassroots Coordination in Chennai

At the Chennai Press Club, APCR addressed the media on 22 May, exposing the Act's communal bias and warning of its long-term consequences. Speakers demanded the withdrawal of the Bill and emphasised its discriminatory impact on Muslims. In June, APCR attended three coordination meetings hosted by the Indian Union Muslim League, bringing together political leaders, youth wings, and women's groups to plan peaceful resistance strategies.



Meet with All India Muslim League



Meet with SDPI



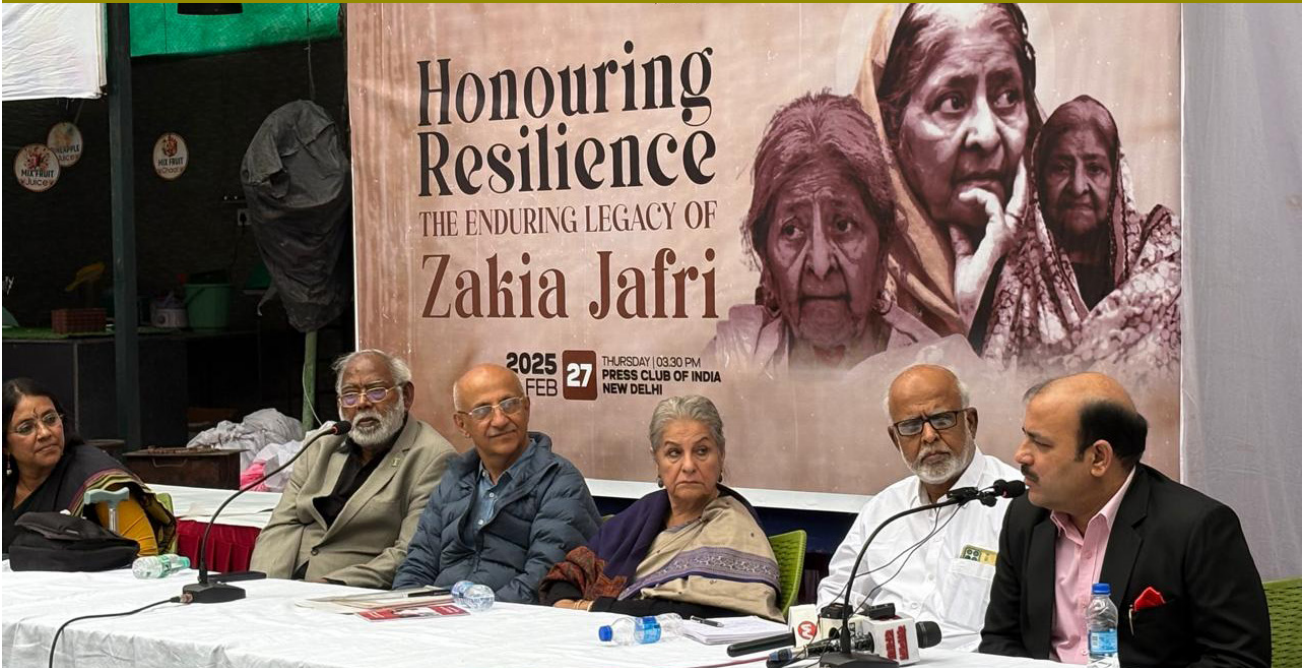
Meet with V for All trust

Waqf Workshop in Lucknow

In Lucknow, APCR hosted a consultation meeting on the new law. Participants discussed the legal changes, how to resist them, and what tools local committees can use to protect their Waqf assets.

HONOURING RESILIENCE – THE ENDURING LEGACY OF ZAKIA JAFRI

On February 27, 2025, APCR hosted a commemorative event at the Press Club of India to honor Zakia Jafri's unwavering pursuit of justice. The widow of former MP Ehsan Jafri, who was killed during the 2002 Gujarat riots, Zakia Jafri became a powerful symbol of resistance against impunity. Civil society members, lawyers, and academics gathered to reflect on her legacy and reaffirm their commitment to truth, justice, and democratic accountability.



IFTAR & DINNER IN SOLIDARITY WITH POLITICAL PRISONERS & THEIR FAMILIES

An Iftar and dinner gathering was organised by APCR on 9th March 2025 at the India Islamic Cultural Centre, New Delhi, to express solidarity with political prisoners and their families. Organized as a gesture of collective support, the event was attended by a diverse group of political leaders, activists, lawyers, and media persons.



PRESS CONFERENCE ON GADDAR AWARD CONTROVERSY IN HYDERABAD

APCR Telangana Chapter held a press conference at Press Club, Hyderabad, demanding the revocation of the Gaddar Award given to the movie, 'Razakar: The Silent Genocide of Hyderabad', directed by BJP leader, Guddur Narayana Reddy on 19th June, 2025. Speakers condemned the film's historical inaccuracies and its vilification of the Muslim community. The film contradicts the values Gaddar stood for: justice, secularism, and resistance against oppression. APCR urged the government to uphold communal harmony and protect the integrity of the awards by withdrawing the award and reviewing the selection process.



Statewide Publications and Outreach in Maharashtra

In January and February 2025, APCR Maharashtra undertook extensive printing and distribution initiatives. A total of 1000 calendars were distributed across District and Sessions Courts, the Bar Council, offices of senior advocates, police stations, NGOs, and other institutions. Between January 10 and 26, around 8000 introductory folders were distributed – 2000 each in Urdu and English, and 1000 each in Marathi and Hindi. Additionally, RTI procedure folders were printed and released at the Nagpur workshop on January 26, with 1000 copies each in English and Marathi distributed throughout Maharashtra. On February 20, 440 report books were distributed to donors, lawyers, and philanthropists across the state.



Submission of Memoranda on Civic, Legal, and Human Rights

Between February and May 2025, APCR Maharashtra submitted multiple memoranda addressing civic and human rights concerns. On February 25, the Akola Chapter submitted a memorandum to the Commissioner of Akola Municipal Corporation demanding the relocation of the Naigaon dumping ground away from the city to prevent health and environmental hazards. On April 22, a memorandum was presented to the Additional Police Commissioner of Nashik city, demanding the arrest of the real culprits involved in the stone-pelting incident, release of innocent persons wrongfully arrested, and maintenance of law and order in the city. On May 21, APCR Akola intervened when Muslim girl students at Geeta Devi Khandelwal Institute of Pharmacy were forced to remove their burqa in the examination hall and checked publicly by an invigilator. An APCR delegation met Assistant Principal Marathe, submitted a memorandum along with a copy of the Supreme Court order on religious rights, and secured an assurance that the matter would be addressed with due seriousness.

Press Conference on Fishermen's Protest Against Port Construction

On February 27, 2025, APCR Karnataka held a press conference at Bengaluru Press Club to address the arrest and harassment of fishermen protesting against the construction of a port in Kasarkod, near Bhatkal. During the protest, dozens of fishermen, including women, risked their lives by venturing into the deep sea as an act of extreme resistance before being rescued by Coastal Security Police. Several protestors, including fishermen leaders, were arrested, while others went into hiding. In response, a delegation of fishermen approached APCR for legal support. At the press conference, Senior Advocate B.T. Venkatesh and General Secretary Mohammad Niyaz briefed the media about the situation and assured legal assistance to the affected communities.



Joint Consultation on Hate Speech and Fake News

On January 11, 2025, APCR Mysuru and PUCL Mysuru held a joint meeting to discuss the current socio-political situation, rising incidents of fake news, hate speech, and strategies to address these issues collectively. The meeting focused on building coordinated responses and strengthening joint action to counter misinformation and communal narratives effectively.



Consultation Meeting on Education for Dropout Students

On January 13, 2025, APCR Kalaburagi participated in a consultation meeting organised by the Minority Department of Kalaburagi to seek suggestions from stakeholders. During the meeting, the APCR team discussed issues related to school dropout students and students who had failed examinations. They recommended conducting a survey to identify such students and proposed opening a dedicated school for them, along with ensuring separate budget provisions to address the problem effectively.



Iftar Consultation Meet Organised by APCR Kalaburagi

An Iftar party and consultation meet was organised by APCR Kalaburagi on March 11, 2025. Sri Ravindra Dhakappa, Information Commissioner, Kalaburagi bench, attended as the guest of honour. The gathering saw the participation of over 60 people, facilitating community dialogue and strengthening networks for future socio-legal interventions.



Lawyers for Justice Program: Lucknow

APCR organised the Lawyers for Justice Program in Lucknow to strengthen a committed network of advocates dedicated to defending civil liberties and constitutional rights. The program brought together practicing lawyers, young advocates, and legal scholars to discuss emerging challenges including arbitrary demolitions, misuse of criminal law, communal targeting, and restrictions on minority rights. Through focused sessions and open dialogue, participants examined recent case studies, shared courtroom strategies, and explored coordinated legal responses to state overreach. The initiative aimed to build a responsive legal support system capable of providing timely intervention, strategic litigation, and sustained representation for affected communities across Uttar Pradesh.



APCR Organises “Longing for Justice: Continuous Denial of Bail & Caging Dissent”

APCR organised the program “Longing for Justice: Continuous Denial of Bail & Caging Dissent” to highlight the growing crisis of prolonged pre-trial incarceration and the shrinking space for democratic dissent. The event brought together lawyers, activists, academics, and family members of undertrial prisoners to examine how stringent laws and delayed bail hearings are being used to punish individuals without conviction. Speakers reflected on the human cost of extended imprisonment, the impact on families, and the broader implications for constitutional freedoms. The program reaffirmed the urgent need to restore the principle of “bail, not jail,” ensure due process, and safeguard the right to dissent in a democratic society.



Report Release: “Violence and Displacement: Uttarakhand and the Politics of Hate”

APCR released its fact-finding report titled “Violence and Displacement: Uttarakhand and the Politics of Hate”, documenting a troubling pattern of communal targeting, economic boycotts, demolitions, and forced displacement across several districts of the state. Based on field visits, victim testimonies, and examination of official records, the report traces how hate campaigns and administrative actions have combined to marginalise vulnerable communities. The release event brought together lawyers, activists, journalists, and community representatives, who discussed the constitutional concerns raised by these developments and the urgent need for accountability. The report calls for the protection of fundamental rights, an independent investigation into incidents of violence, and immediate measures to ensure the safety and rehabilitation of affected families.



Public Meeting on Repeated Attacks on Places of Worship of Minorities

APCR organised a public meeting to address the growing number of attacks on places of worship belonging to minority communities. The gathering brought together religious leaders, lawyers, civil society members, and concerned citizens to speak about the pattern of vandalism, intimidation, and administrative inaction surrounding these incidents.

Participants shared ground reports and legal perspectives, pointing out how such attacks not only damage physical structures but also create fear and insecurity among entire communities. The meeting called for strict enforcement of the law against perpetrators, protection of religious freedoms guaranteed under the Constitution, and swift restoration of damaged sites. It reaffirmed that safeguarding places of worship is essential to preserving communal harmony and the rule of law.



Building Constitutional Awareness: A Special Address in Tamil Nadu by Harsh Mander



A meaningful and engaging talk by noted social activist Harsh Mander was organised in Tamil Nadu, drawing participation from more than 60 members.

The session focused on constitutional values, social justice, and the responsibility of citizens in challenging discrimination and injustice. Participants actively engaged in discussion, asked questions, and reflected on the role of civil society in protecting rights and strengthening democratic principles.

The programme created space for dialogue, learning, and collective resolve to work towards a more just and inclusive society.



Consultation Meeting On the issue of hurdles faced by social workers working in prisons in Lucknow



APCR Maharashtra organized and addressed a press conference in Mumbai on the theme "Victim of Injustice."

Solidarity Meeting by APCR Chennai Chapter

APCR Chennai Chapter organised a solidarity meeting at Abid's Restaurant Meeting Hall, bringing together representatives from leading social, human welfare, and human rights organisations.

The gathering created space for open dialogue, shared concerns, and collective reflection on current challenges. Participants discussed how to strengthen coordination, support each other's work, and respond more effectively to rights violations through joint efforts.

The meeting aimed to build trust, deepen collaboration, and move forward with a stronger, united approach rooted in shared values and mutual support.





LEGAL AWARENESS & CAPACITY BUILDING

This year, APCR continued to focus strongly on legal awareness at the grassroots. Through workshops, training sessions, and community meetings held across the country, people were brought together to better understand their rights and how to protect them.

State-level paralegal camps in Bhopal and Patna, along with socio-legal workshops in Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Maharashtra, and Jharkhand, created spaces where advocates, students, activists, and local residents could sit together and talk openly about the law. These were not just lectures. They were practical discussions about what to do when someone faces injustice, how to document violations, and how to approach the legal system with clarity and confidence. With guidance from APCR's national and state teams, participants learned how laws work in real-life situations. Many shared their own experiences from their districts and villages, making the sessions grounded and relevant.

Legal Awareness Programs in Mumbai and Amravati

On February 16, 2025, a legal awareness program was organised in Amravati, attended by around 100 people. Later, on February 23, a legal awareness program with dinner was held under the presidency of Adv Yusuf Muchhala for Mumbai city's philanthropists at Scholars High School, Jogeshwari West, where 35 out of 80 invitees attended. Additionally, during May and June, approximately 20 meetings were held across Mumbai to create awareness among mosque and madarsa representatives about their legal rights in response to the Mumbai Police circular pressuring removal of loudspeakers used for Azaan under noise pollution charges. These meetings took place at locations including Vikhroli Park Site, Mecca Masjid Ghatkopar, Tagore Nagar, Chembur Tilak Nagar, Narayan Nagar, Dargah Mulundanaka, Chembur RCF Colony, Bhandup, Santacruz, Bandra, Wadala, Old Musafir Khana, Islam Gymkhana, and Colaba, with some venues visited multiple times. Approximately 1000 people participated in these community meetings.



RTI Training Workshops in Vidarbha and Pune

In May 2025, APCR Maharashtra strengthened its legal empowerment initiatives through focused RTI training workshops. On May 25, a one-day RTI training workshop was organised in Akola for the district chapters of the Vidarbha region. The program was attended by 35 participants, including presidents, secretaries, general members, and socio-legal activists from various districts. The workshop covered detailed procedures on drafting effective RTI applications, identifying relevant public authorities, and strategies for pursuing information crucial for community rights and legal interventions. Following this, on May 27, the APCR Pune Chapter conducted an RTI workshop and training session at ML Square Apartments, Kuddalwadi, PCMC Pune. This session specifically addressed the needs of aggrieved persons affected by the recent demolition drive carried out by the Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation. Participants were trained on how to file RTIs to seek official documents, demolition orders, and compensation details, equipping them with tools to challenge arbitrary administrative actions effectively.

Legal Awareness Programs Conducted Across Jharkhand

APCR Jharkhand organised legal awareness programs in Hazaribagh, Garhwa, and Dhanbad between January and May 2025. These sessions aimed to educate local communities about their constitutional rights and available legal remedies, empowering them to address daily injustices and administrative challenges effectively.



State-Level Workshop Conducted in Karnataka to Train Paralegal Volunteers

On January 25 and 26, 2025, APCR Karnataka State organised a two-day state-level workshop for paralegal volunteers in Udupi. The workshop was attended by more than 130 participants from different districts across Karnataka, focusing on enhancing legal awareness, paralegal skills, and effective community legal interventions.



Legal Awareness Session Conducted at Al-Ameen Royal High School

On February 28, 2025, APCR activists conducted a legal awareness session for students at Al-Ameen Royal High School, Hangal, Haveri District. The session was addressed by APCR activists Shaikh Shafi Ahmed and Rajkumar Aland, along with Jb. Maqbool Ahmed Akkivaelli, Chairman of Maqbooliya Society. The program aimed to educate students about their legal rights and responsibilities.

Coastal Regional Para-Legal Meeting Held in Udupi

On June 28, 2025, APCR Karnataka organised its Coastal Regional Meet in Udupi to strengthen district teams across Udupi, Dakshina Kannada, Uttara Kannada, and Shivamogga. The meeting saw participation from over 150 volunteers, fostering collaboration, capacity-building, and grassroots empowerment. Key leaders emphasised APCR's commitment to bridging the gap between law and society through legal aid, policy advocacy, and human rights initiatives to advance justice in the coastal regions.

Session Conducted to Raise Awareness on the Preamble of the Constitution

On February 10, 2025, APCR conducted an awareness session at Kalanjiyam School focusing on the preamble of the Indian Constitution. The session was led by APCR's President and Vice President, who explained the significance of the preamble, its values of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity, and how it guides the functioning of Indian democracy. Students were encouraged to understand their constitutional rights and duties to become informed and responsible citizens. The interactive discussion motivated students to uphold the principles enshrined in the Constitution in their daily lives and communities.

District-Level Capacity Building Meetings Organised in UP to Strengthen Local Units

During January 2025, APCR organised capacity building meetings in seven districts of Uttar Pradesh – Sitapur, Kanpur, Fatehpur, Lakhimpur, Mau, Azamgarh, and Lucknow. These meetings focused on strengthening the organisational setup of the respective district teams, enhancing coordination, and strategising effective grassroots interventions for civil rights protection.

Legal Awareness Workshop in Etawah

APCR organised a legal awareness workshop in Etawah as part of its continuing grassroots outreach. The session brought together local advocates, students, social workers, and community members who wanted to better understand their rights and responsibilities under the law.



Awareness and Volunteer Training Program at Shadab Colony, Lucknow

APCR conducted an awareness and volunteer training programme at Shadab Colony in Lucknow, bringing together local residents, youth, and community volunteers for a focused legal awareness session.

Constitutional Awareness Programmes in Schools and Colleges in Tamil Nadu

APCR conducted eight awareness programmes across schools and colleges in Tamil Nadu, focusing on the importance of the Indian Constitution. The sessions highlighted why the Constitution remains one of the strongest foundations of our democracy and why young citizens must understand it deeply.

Students were guided through key constitutional values, fundamental rights, and duties. The discussions stressed the need not only to know the Constitution but to practice and protect it in daily life. Interactive conversations encouraged students to reflect on their role in upholding justice, equality, and fraternity.

Through these programmes, APCR aimed to nurture informed, responsible, and constitutionally aware youth.



Awareness and Volunteer Training Program, Prayagraj

APCR organised an Awareness and Volunteer Training Program in Prayagraj as part of its ongoing effort to build strong grassroots legal networks.

The workshop brought together students, local volunteers, social workers, and community members who are actively engaged in public issues. The session focused on understanding basic legal rights, responding to unlawful actions, documenting incidents properly, and guiding affected families toward appropriate legal remedies.



Awareness and Volunteer Training Program, Kaushambi

APCR organised an Awareness and Volunteer Training Program in Kaushambi as part of its ongoing effort to build strong grassroots legal networks.

The workshop brought together students, local volunteers, social workers, and community members who are actively engaged in public issues. The session focused on understanding basic legal rights, responding to unlawful actions, documenting incidents properly, and guiding affected families toward appropriate legal remedies.



Awareness and Volunteer Training Program in Bindki, Fatehpur

APCR organised an Awareness and Volunteer Training Program in Bindki, Fatehpur, bringing together local youth, students, social workers, and community representatives for a focused legal awareness session.



Human Rights Day 2025 Workshop and Training Programme, Rajasthan

On the occasion of Human Rights Day 2025, APCR organised a workshop and training programme in Rajasthan to mark the importance of constitutional values and fundamental rights.

The programme brought together advocates, students, social workers, and community members for meaningful discussions on human rights protections in India. Sessions focused on understanding legal safeguards, responding to unlawful actions, and the role of citizens in protecting dignity and justice within their communities.



By observing Human Rights Day through dialogue and training, APCR reinforced its commitment to strengthening legal awareness and promoting peaceful, lawful engagement across Rajasthan.

23 February 2025 – Civil Rights Defenders Programme, Rajasthan

On 23 February 2025, APCR organised a Civil Rights Defenders Programme in Rajasthan, bringing together committed individuals working at the grassroots to protect constitutional values.

The programme focused on the role of civil rights defenders in documenting violations, supporting affected families, and engaging with legal remedies in a lawful and responsible manner. Advocates and senior members guided participants through practical discussions on filing complaints, handling police procedures, and maintaining proper records.



20 July 2025 – Legal Awareness Program in Gomia, Bokaro

On 20 July 2025, APCR organised a legal awareness program in Gomia, Bokaro, bringing together local residents for an informative session on civil and human rights.



APCR Secretary Advocate Ziaullah opened the program with an introduction to APCR’s work and explained the organisation’s legal initiatives and community support efforts. He outlined how individuals can seek guidance and use lawful remedies when facing rights violations.

Advocate Shabbir Sahib from Tenughat followed with a detailed discussion on civil and human rights, explaining key protections available under the law and how they apply in everyday situations.

The gathering was also addressed by Afzal Anees Sahib, Janab Mustafa Ansari Sahib, Tohid Sahib, Anwar Sahib, and Mohammad Iqbal Sahib, who shared their perspectives and encouraged active community participation.

The program concluded with the presidential address by APCR Vice President Advocate Rezaullah Ansari Sahib, who emphasised the importance of legal awareness, unity, and responsible civic engagement.

24 August 2025 – Legal Awareness Program in Kumardhubi, Dhanbad

On 24 August 2025, the APCR Dhanbad unit organised a one-day legal awareness programme in Kumardhubi, Dhanbad. The session brought together local residents, students, and community members for a detailed discussion on constitutional and legal rights.

The programme began with the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran, followed by an introduction to APCR and its work by Advocate Ziaullah, Secretary of APCR. He explained the organisation’s activities and its efforts to provide legal support to those facing injustice.

Advocate Sheesh Alam spoke about the Indian Constitution and fundamental rights, explaining how constitutional protections apply in everyday life. Advocate Qamar Imam then addressed the Indian criminal justice system, noting the complexity of legal procedures and the importance of proper guidance.

Advocate Shadab Ansari discussed the legal safeguards available to arrested persons, stressing that a lack of legal awareness often leads to unnecessary hardship for ordinary citizens.

The programme concluded with the keynote address by APCR Vice President Advocate Rezaullah Ansari, who emphasised the need for legal literacy and responsible civic participation within the framework of law.



Chatra – Legal Awareness Program at Mahua Chowk

APCR organised a legal awareness programme in Chatra on Sunday at Zamzam Hotel, Mahua Chowk. People from different neighbourhoods and nearby villages attended the session to learn about their legal rights and basic procedures under Indian law.

The programme covered key aspects of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), and the Evidence Act. Speakers explained how to file an FIR, rules related to arrest, different categories of offences, the role of case diaries and charge sheets, and the importance of fundamental rights. The focus remained on practical knowledge that ordinary citizens can use when facing legal situations.

APCR Executive Advocate Khalil Ansari stressed that legal awareness is not optional. Without understanding the law, people can easily face harassment or pressure from authorities. State Vice President Advocate Rajaulah Ansari reminded participants that no one should live in fear without cause. The law protects every citizen, but that protection works best when people are informed. He encouraged young participants to consider careers in the judiciary and legal field so they can stand with those who face injustice.

The programme was chaired by Mo. Taufiq Alam and conducted by Mo. Sabir. At the conclusion, a 17-member committee led by Mo. Nehal Warsi was formed to strengthen district-level coordination and continue legal awareness efforts locally.



30 December 2025 – SIR Consultation Meeting in Ramgarh

APCR Ramgarh organised a consultation meeting titled “Wake Up Before SIR and Protect Your Rights” at the Islamic Academy, Saudagar Mohalla, on Tuesday after Maghrib prayers at 6:00 p.m.

Addressing the gathering, Advocate Ziaullah, Secretary of APCR Jharkhand, clarified that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process has not yet started in Jharkhand, but preparations are underway. He informed participants that Booth Level Officers (BLOs) have been tasked with mapping current voters with the 2003 voter list, and the exercise is ongoing. He stressed that this is the right time for citizens to organise their documents and verify their records to safeguard their voting rights.



The programme focused on citizens’ responsibilities during such revision processes and the practical

steps they can take in advance. Participants raised several questions, which were addressed in detail by the speakers.

Keynote speakers included Advocate Mukhtar Khan, former Assistant Solicitor General of the High Court, Advocate Rezaullah Ansari, Afzal Anees Sahib, Advocate Ziaullah, and Advocate Jabbar Ansari of Ramgarh. The meeting encouraged timely preparation, awareness, and lawful engagement to protect democratic rights.

Team-Building Meeting of APCR in Haldwani

On 13 July 2025, a meeting was held in Haldwani to discuss strengthening and expanding the APCR team at the local level. The session was attended by APCR National Secretary Nadeem Khan, Advocate M. Huzaifa, Shadab Alam, and around 15 other members and volunteers.

The discussion focused on building a structured district team, identifying committed volunteers, and assigning clear responsibilities for legal aid, fact-finding, media coordination, and community outreach. Emphasis was laid on regular training, better coordination with the legal team, and prompt response mechanisms in cases of rights violations.

The meeting concluded with a roadmap for strengthening grassroots presence in Haldwani and nearby areas, reaffirming APCR's commitment to organised, disciplined, and community-driven work.





PRISONER SUPPORT

Legal teams visited jails, including women's jails and juvenile detention centres, to check on prisoners, provide legal help, and listen to their concerns. Some prisoners were released thanks to the legal support provided by APCR. Many prisoners APCR met had been held for months without proper trial or legal representation. Often, they were arrested for minor offences or because they happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time. APCR's visits reminded both jail authorities and prisoners that basic human dignity and rights do not end at the prison gate.

Free Eye Check-Up Camp Conducted for Prison Inmates

On 15 July 2025, APCR organised an eye check-up camp inside the district jail in Fatehpur as part of its ongoing prison outreach work. The camp was arranged to address the basic but often neglected health needs of inmates, many of whom had been living with untreated vision problems.



Visits Conducted to Multiple Prisons Across Uttar Pradesh for Legal and Welfare Support

During January and February 2025, APCR conducted several prison visits across Uttar Pradesh. In Lucknow District, multiple visits were made to meet clients and discuss their cases with jail authorities. In Kanpur District, visits included participation in Republic Day celebrations and follow-up on the release of prisoners. In February, APCR teams visited Nari Bandi Niketan twice to engage in activity planning and hold meetings with women prisoners, addressing their legal concerns and welfare. These coordinated visits were part of APCR's ongoing efforts to ensure legal aid, rights protection, and humane treatment of inmates across the state.

Prisoners Released from Fatehpur and Gorakhpur Jails After Legal Intervention

On June 3, 2025, APCR secured the release of prisoners from Fatehpur and Gorakhpur District Jails. Sher Ali was released from Gorakhpur Jail in connection with the case *State vs Sher Ali* (Case No. 301/2025) under Section 317(2) BNS. In Fatehpur, Advocates Muhammad Hafeez, Abdul Samad, and social worker Maqsood Ahmad led the efforts to secure Shriram's release.

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APCR SECURES BAIL FOR GAUSGANJ VIOLENCE ACCUSED

23 July, 2025 | Bareilly: APCR has secured bail for Chandashah, accused in the July 2024 Gausganj violence. Two FIRs were filed against Chandashah, who faced multiple BNS charges including 191(2), 19(3), 190, 109, 119(2), 352, 351(2), 324, 74, 331(6), 3/5, 103(2), and 61/2. The Allahabad High Court granted bail in both cases. Advocates Abad Tyagi and Gufran represented the accused on behalf of APCR.

Case Crime No: 217/2024 & 218/2024

Police Station: Shahi, Bareilly (U.P.)



Welfare Visit Conducted at Juvenile Detention Centre

On April 20, 2025, APCR members visited the Juvenile Detention Centre in Purasawakam. During the visit, they interacted with inmates below 18 years of age, delivered motivational speeches to inspire and uplift them, and organised a feast as part of their welfare outreach initiative.

Independence Day Programme at Nari Bandi Niketan, Lucknow

On 15 August 2025, APCR organised a special Independence Day programme at Nari Bandi Niketan in Lucknow as part of its prison outreach activities. The event was conducted to engage with women inmates, share the spirit of freedom and constitutional values, and remind them that dignity and rights belong to every individual, regardless of circumstances.



Visit to Juvenile Detention Centre, Purasawalkam

APCR conducted a visit to the Juvenile Detention Centre in Purasawalkam as part of its ongoing outreach with children in conflict with law. The team interacted with the residents, listened to their concerns, and offered counselling and encouragement.



Juvenile Prison Visit and Support in Tamil Nadu

APCR visited the juvenile home to meet young boys serving sentences for offences committed during their minor years. The team interacted with them at length, listened to their experiences, and offered counselling support. They were encouraged to reflect on their past, learn from their mistakes, and focus on rebuilding their lives with hope and purpose.



Fatehpur – Spectacle Distribution for Inmates (19 August 2025)

On 19 August 2025, APCR organised a prison welfare activity in Fatehpur focused on distributing spectacles to inmates in need. The initiative followed basic vision assessments to identify prisoners facing difficulty in reading or carrying out daily tasks due to poor eyesight.



Lucknow – Sports Event for Juvenile Offenders (29 August 2025)

On 29 August 2025, APCR organised a sports event for juvenile offenders in Lucknow as part of its prison outreach activities. The event was designed to encourage teamwork, discipline, and positive engagement among the children.



Raebareli – Karva Chauth Celebration at District Jail (06 October 2025)

On 06 October 2025, APCR organised a prison outreach activity at the District Jail in Raebareli to mark the occasion of Karva Chauth. The programme was aimed at creating a supportive and humane environment for inmates, particularly women observing the fast.



Gorakhpur – Celebration of Constitution Day at District Jail (26 November 2025)

On 26 November 2025, APCR organised a prison outreach activity at the District Jail in Gorakhpur to mark Constitution Day. The programme focused on reminding inmates of the values enshrined in the Constitution and the rights and duties it guarantees to every citizen.



اے پی سی آر کے تحت جیل میں یوم آئین پر خصوصی پروگرام آئین صرف قانونی دستاویز نہیں اخلاقی رہنما بھی ہے: ایڈووکیٹ رافع

گو دھوپور (ایس این بی) یوم آئین کے موقع پر ایسوسی ایشن فار ریٹریٹنگ آف سول رائٹس (APCR) کی جانب سے گو دھوپور کے پچھلا واقعہ جیل میں ایک خصوصی پروگرام کا انعقاد کیا گیا۔ اس پروگرام کا بنیادی مقصد قیدیوں میں آئین ہند کی اہمیت، شہری حقوق، فرائض اور جمہوری اقدار کے حوالے سے شعور بیدار کرنا تھا۔ اس موقع پر اے پی سی آر کے نائب ایڈووکیٹ محمد رافع نے آئین ہند کی تہذیب (Preamble) بھی

ہے۔ جو ہر شہری کو باوقار زندگی گزارنے کا حق دیتا ہے۔ انہوں نے قیدیوں کو یہ حوصلہ دیا کہ وہ اپنے حقوق سے باخبر رہیں۔ آئین ذمہ داریوں کو سمجھیں اور رہائی کے بعد بہتر اور مثبت سماجی کردار ادا کریں۔ ایڈووکیٹ محمد رافع نے آئین میں دیے گئے بنیادی حقوق اور بنیادی ذمہ داریوں پر تفصیل سے گفتگو کی۔ اس موقع پر جیل سرٹیفکیٹ ڈی کے پاٹل نے بھی اظہارِ خیال کیا اور پروگرام کے دوران آئین ہند کی تہذیب (Preamble) بھی

قیدیوں کی ذہنی اور اخلاقی تربیت میں اہم کردار ادا کرتے ہیں۔ اے پی سی آر کی ٹیم نے جیل انتظامیہ کا خصوصی شکر یہ ادا کیا اور آئین کو بھی ایسے تعمیری و نفاذی پروگرام منعقد کرنے کے عزم کا اظہار کیا۔



25 December 2025 – Christmas Celebration with 1090 ChildLine Children, Lucknow

On 25 December 2025, APCR Lucknow organised a prison outreach and support activity by celebrating Christmas with children associated with 1090 ChildLine.



26 December 2025 – Prison Outreach Activity in Lucknow

On 26 December 2025, APCR Lucknow organised a prison outreach activity focused on juvenile offenders. The team spent time with the children and celebrated Christmas with them in a simple and warm gathering.



APCR'S INTERVENTION IN S.I.R. ENUMERATION

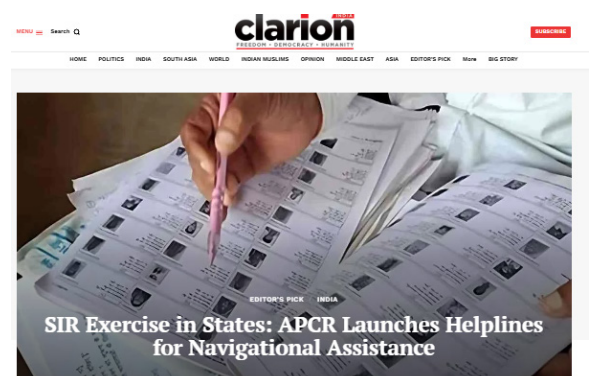
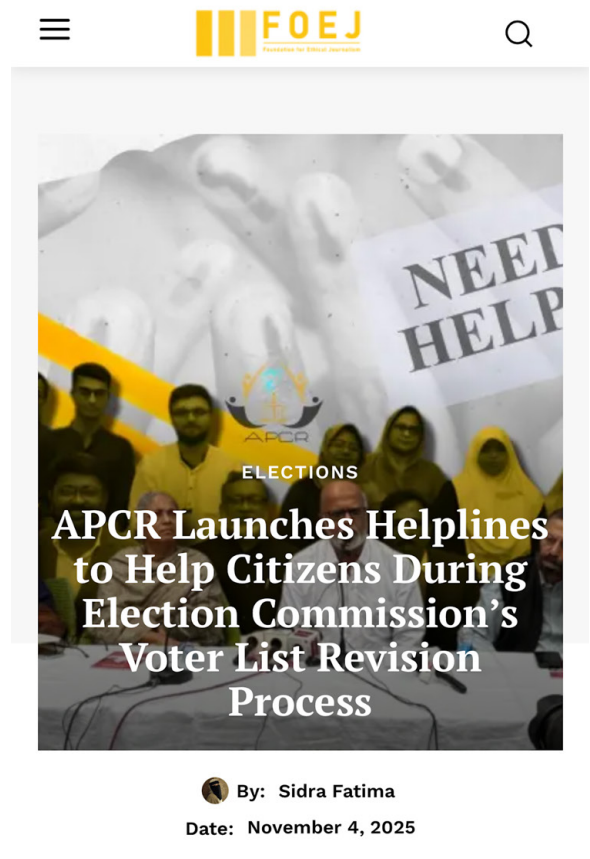
The Association for Protection of Civil Rights (APCR) has played a pivotal role in supporting the Muslim community in the Special Identification and Registration (SIR) process across multiple states, strengthening civic participation and legal empowerment at the grassroots level. APCR along with SPECT has launched a Helpline for SIR.

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Before the SIR process intensified, APCR conducted a focused training session for its call centre staff and field volunteers, led by Rahul Shastri, who had carried out an independent ground assessment. The session clarified the SIR structure, roles of BLOs, common form errors, and practical challenges faced by communities. Volunteers were trained to guide people accurately and handle distress calls with patience and clarity.

From 4 November to 30 November, APCR operated a dedicated call centre to assist individuals facing issues with forms, documentation, or B&O procedures. The team provided step-by-step guidance to callers dealing with missing names, corrections, and document uploads. The helpline proved especially helpful for women, elderly citizens, and first-time voters. It also helped identify recurring district-level issues, enabling timely intervention.

Simultaneously, APCR organised awareness camps in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, and Uttarakhand. Volunteers assisted with form filling, document review, and clarifications. Digital outreach through WhatsApp messages and short videos further expanded awareness, while meetings with BLOs helped address implementation gaps.



Madhya Pradesh



Uttarakhand



Uttar Pradesh



Gujarat



Tamil Nadu



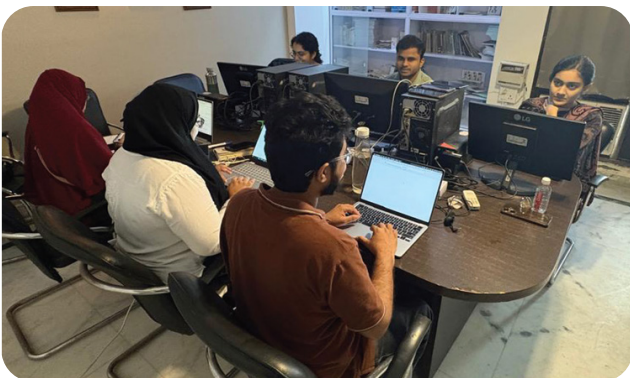
Rajasthan



Volunteer Training



Call Center, Delhi



BEHIND THE SCENES: NATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP

In June 2025, APCR held a two-day workshop at the Sambhavna Institute with participation from all its state chapters. The focus was on improving how we carry out our work, so that we can support people on the ground more efficiently, accurately, and consistently.

Sessions covered practical topics like how to conduct fact-finding, write reports, document ongoing work, and handle legal processes better. These are the tools we rely on every day while responding to violence, injustice, or state excess. When used well, they help ensure that the people we support get timely, reliable help and that our work holds up in public, media, and legal spaces.

By improving our internal systems and sharpening our field methods, this workshop will help us respond faster, document better, and serve communities more effectively in the months ahead.





MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

Anti-Minority Hate Crimes Increased in Number, Intensity in First Year of Modi 3.0: Report
By Tamoghna Chakraborty
Jun 27 2025
An APCR report finds that five hate speeches in the last year were delivered by Modi himself, 63 by chief ministers of BJP governments, and 71 by other elected individuals.

"Police Let The Violence Escalate; Timely Action Could Have Prevented Deaths": Rights Groups On Murshidabad Violence
By The Observer Post
Published June 26, 2025

APCR documents 184 Hate Crimes, Exposes Systemic Anti-Muslim Onslaught Post-Pahalgam
By admin.indiatomorrow

Watch | 39 Assaults, 19 Acts of Vandalism, 42 Incidents of Harassment Against Muslims Since Pahalgam: Report
By Hindoo News
11/June/2025

Allahabad HC halts demolition of Sambhal school amid Hindutva-backed ownership dispute
Modified: June 19, 2025
June 19, 2025
The Allahabad High Court directed the Uttar Pradesh government not to demolish the building of Azad Jannat Nisha School, a long-standing

APCR Secures Bail for Innocent Youth in Sambhal Violence Case
By Radiance News Bureau - June 3, 2025

184 Hate Incidents Took Place Across India Post-Pahalgam Attack: APCR Report
Updated - April 05, 2025 06:53 pm IST - New Delhi

Allahabad HC Stays Demolition of Varanasi's Dalmandi on APCR Plea
Team Clarion
Date: June 1, 2025

'Alarming Interference With Religious Affairs': NGO APCR Files Petition In Supreme Court Challenging Waqf Amendment Act
Gursimran Kaur Bakshi
7 Apr 2025 10:10 PM

NGO APCR moves SC challenging constitutional validity of Waqf Bill
Updated - Apr 05 2025 6:15 PM IST

The plea by NGO says that the bill violates Articles 14, 25, 26, and 300A of the Constitution, along with the preambular values that constitute the bedrock of our democratic and secular framework
Updated - April 05, 2025 06:53 pm IST - New Delhi

APCR Demands Revocation of Gaddar Award for 'Razakar' Movie
Team Clarion
Date: June 20, 2025



Keep up with our future activities



Association for
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