



Government of Tamilnadu

Department of Employment and Training

Course : TNPSC Group II Exam
Subject : Indian Polity
Topic : **Human Rights Charter**

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**Commissioner,
Department of Employment and Training.**

HUMAN RIGHTS CHARTER

Definition:

Human Rights are moral claims that are inalienable and inherent to all individuals by virtue of being human.

HR Covers:

1. Dowry system, Purdah system
2. Sexual harassment & Domestic violence
3. Custodial death
4. Untouchability
5. Social discrimination
6. Bonded & child labour
7. Religious violence & caste violence

four members. The chairman should be a retired chief justice of India, and other members should be a serving or retired judge of the Supreme Court, a serving or retired chief justice of a high court and two persons having knowledge or practical experience with respect to human rights.

- ❖ In addition to these full-time members, the commission also has four ex-officio members – the chairman of the National Commission for SCs, the National Commission for STs and the National Commission for Women.

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

- ❖ The National Human Rights Commission is a statutory body. It was established in 1993 under a legislation enacted by the Parliament, namely, the Protecting of Human Rights Act, 1993. This Act was amended in 2006.

Composition:

- ❖ The commission is a multi-member body consisting of a chairman and

Appointment:

- ❖ By the president, on the recommendations of a six-member committee consisting of the
 1. prime minister as its head,
 2. the speaker of the Lok Sabha
 3. the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha
 4. Leaders of the Opposition in both the Houses of Parliament

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5. Parliament and the Central home Ministers. inmates and make recommendation thereon.

Term and Tenure:

- ❖ The chairman and members hold office for a term of five years or until they attain the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier.

Functions:

- ❖ To inquire into any violation of human rights or negligence in the prevention of such violation by a public servant, either suo motu or on a petition presented to it or on an order of a court.
- ❖ To intervene in any proceeding involving allegation of violation of human rights pending before a court.
- ❖ To visit jails and detention places to study the living conditions of

Working of the Commission:

- ❖ The commission's headquarters is at Delhi and it can also establish offices at other places in India.
- ❖ It has all the powers of a civil court and its proceedings have a judicial character.
- ❖ The commission is not empowered to inquire into any matter after the expiry of one year from the date on which the act constituting violation of human rights is alleged to have been committed.
- ❖ The functions of the commission are mainly recommendatory in nature.
- ❖ Its recommendations are not binding on the concerned

- The **United Nations Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR)** was a functional commission within the overall framework of the United Nations from 1946 until it was replaced by the United Nations Human Rights Council in 2006.
- It was a subsidiary body of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), and was also assisted in its work by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR).
- It met for the first time in January 1947 and established a drafting committee for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was adopted by the United Nations on December 10, 1948.
- **Human Rights Day** – December 10.

government or authority. But, it should be informed about the action taken on its recommendations within one month.

The chairperson should be a retired Chief Justice of a High Court and members should be a serving or retired judge of a High Court or a District Judge in the state with a minimum of seven years experience as District Judge and a person having knowledge or practical experience with respect to human rights.

STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (SHRC)

- ❖ A State Human Rights Commission can inquire into violation of human rights only in respect of subjects mentioned in the State List (List – II) and the Concurrent List (List – III) of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution.

Composition:

- ❖ It is a multi-member body consisting of a chairperson and two members.

Appointment:

- ❖ By the Governor on the recommendations of a committee consisting of

FORMER CHAIRPERSONS

Sl No	Name	Tenure
1.	Justice Ranganath Misra	12 October 1993 - 24 November 1996
2.	Justice M N Venkatachaliah	26 November 1996 - 24 October 1999
3.	Justice J S Verma	4 November 1999 - 17 January 2003
4.	Justice A S Anand	17 February 2003 - 31 October 2006
5.	Justice Shivaraj Patil (Acting Person)	From 1 st November 2006 - 1 st April 2007
6.	Justice S. Rajendra Babu	2 April 2007 - 31 May 2009
7.	Jusice G P Mathur (Acting Person)	From 1 st 2009 – 6 th June 2010
8.	Justice K G Balakrishnan	7 June 2010 - 11 May 2015
9.	Justice H.L. Dattu	29 February 2016

1. Chief Minister as its head
2. The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
3. The State Home Minister
4. The Leader of opposition in the Legislative Assembly
5. The chairman of the Council and the Leader of the opposition in the Council (Incase the state have legislative Council)

Term and Tenure:

- ❖ The chairperson and members hold office for a term of five years or until they attain the age of 70 years, whichever is earlier.

Removal:

- ❖ By the president

Functions:

- ❖ To inquire into any violation of human rights or negligence in the prevention of such violation by a public servant, either suo motu or on a petition presented to it or on an order of a court.

- ❖ To intervene in any proceeding involving allegation of violation of human rights pending before a court.
- ❖ To visit jails and detention places to study the living conditions of inmates and make recommendation thereon.

Working:

- ❖ It has all the powers of a civil court and its proceedings have a judicial character.
- ❖ The Commission is not empowered to inquire into any matter after the expiry of one year from the date on which the act constituting violation of human rights is alleged to have been committed.

**TAMILNADU HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMISSION**

Chair person – Mrs. Justice
T. Meenakumari