

2025-26

GENDER



SAFMA ACTIVITIES

SAFMA's relentless efforts in the field of advocacy of GENDER with thrust on Prevention of Gender Based Violence. *15.04.25 President distinguished panelist at STREE Summit 2.0

Hyderabad, a flagship event of HCSC & Hyderabad Police. Addressed participants on "POSH Act : A Decade of Learning & Case Reporting & Towards Accelerating Action" (500 nos.)

* 18.07.2025 President attended inaugural meeting of Ethical Committee of Sports Authority of India, National Centre for Sports Science & Research. The meeting focused on developing clear guidelines and promoting a culture of transparency, fairness, and responsibility in sports research and practice; particularly with regard to consent and gender

* 13.11.2025 Workshop on Women's Safety & Menstrual Hygiene Awareness among slum dwellers at Tejaji Nagar Basti, Indore. (75 nos). Distributed Sanitary napkins to women. Partners SAFMA, PARI, Humans for Humanity & Prayas.

* 07.03.2026 President spoke on "Death Sentence Not a Deterrent' to Sexual Crimes against Women" at National Level gathering of Women Scholars & Change makers organized by University Women's Association of Delhi (UWAD) (65 nos) * 07.03.2026 President Judge at Preliminary Round of 2nd SRMUH Moot Court Competition, 2026, on "E-Sports and Online Gaming", addressing contemporary legal issues at the intersection of technology intellectual property rights, data protection, issues of privacy and

protection of minors. (70 nos.)

SAFMA continues it's noble work in supporting victims of rape/sexual assault/Gender Based Violence. Donation received from ASSET INDIA FOUNDATION have been fully utilized in FY 2025-26 and 48 Victims of Gender Based Violence /Rape provided Access to Justice, Rehabilitation & Financial assistance.

One of the victims in Rajasthan supported monthly by SAFMA has been successful in raising over Rs. 11 lakhs through crowd funding. In POCSO case (age 3 yrs) due to follow-up by SAFMA complete medical treatment provided free by District Magistrate who sanctioned Rs 50,000/- relief & accused awarded life imprisonment by court plus Rs 3,00,000 compensation to victim. In the case of a pregnant minor who had been raped by her mother's boyfriend for six months; she and her younger sister (age 14) due to efforts of National Convenor SAFMA apart from interim relief, have been safely placed by CWC in a home.

SAFMA's believes **Sexual Harassment at Workplace**, is a form of gender based violence and discrimination constitutes a gross violation of women's right to equality and dignity. To create an environment of gender sensitivity & build a culture of mutual respect and equal opportunity, POSH training is an ongoing activity with workshops conducted in slums of Delhi informing women of their rights, including on the role, function and accessibility of Local Complaint Committees (LC). On 12.11.2025 awareness session on the importance of a safe and respectful workplace was conducted for young advocates in Indore (20 nos).

Global Presence SAFMA has taken full advantage of making it's presence felt globally by participating in online & physical international webinars *15.05.25 CSW (UN Commission on the Status of Women) Revitalization: Informal Meeting with the Co-Facilitators. President highlighted need for inclusion of Aging specially in relation to Gender. (273 nos) * 04.07.25 President spoke on the systematic violation of Bahá'í women's Human Rights in Iran, at discussion on "The Boot on My Neck"- A 2024 Human Rights Watch Report detailing persecution of Bahá'ís; organized by the Office of Public Affairs of the Bahá'ís of India & HRDI (150 nos) * 18.09.2025 Interaction with Dr. Maja Groff, Co-Chair of the International Coordinating Committee for the International Anti-Corruption Court (IACC) Campaign and Convenor of the Climate Governance Commission which seeks to propose high impact global governance innovations adequate to meet the climate challenge; at Bahá'í House New Delhi (100 nos) * 18.11.25 Panel discussion on "Justice as a Moral Calling: Reimagining Ethics in Public Life", Chief Speaker Judge Danielle J Forrest - Judge US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, jointly organised by the Office of



Public Affairs of the Bahá'ís of India and HRDI, in which SAFMA President is Secretary (100 nos) * 19.11.2025 Interaction with Chief Justices from 58 countries organised by National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of India & City Montessori School, Lucknow. (150 nos) * 15.12.2025 Civil Society Briefing on the UN80 Initiative with Under-Secretary-General Guy Ryder * 03.03.2026 SAFMA identified by the UN Executive Office of the Secretary-General as someone familiar with global risk issues and the multilateral system, participated in UN

second Global Risk Perception Survey, with the support of the LRF Institute for the Public Understanding of Risk at the National Univ. of Singapore. The survey featuring 28 risks gathered information on stakeholders' perceptions of global risks and their views on the multilateral system's capacity to manage those risks. Its findings will inform the second Global Risk Report to be launched in 2026. * 31.03.2026 Attended Special Lecture on "Child Labour through an International Human Rights Law Lens" by Ms. Shilan Shah-Davis, Director (Academic), Bristol Law School, Univ. of the West of England, UK organised by ISIL. (20 nos.)

- Counselling and provided assistance to 31 VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.
- Supported ACCESS TO JUSTICE of 26 victims of rape/ gender based violence.
- DONATION of 65 Thermal garments sets for students at Sant Baba Nagpal Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya Evam Shodh Sansthan, affiliated to Shri Sampurnanand Sanskrit Vishvavidyalaya, Varanasi run by Shree Adya Katyayani Shaktipeeth Mandir, Chattarpur.
- FINANCIAL AID given to a poor mother whose child who had been sodomised and cross case filed by accused.
- MEDICAL DONATION to 1 woman battling lingering infection in her bone marrow;
- 1 child born deaf at birth but now can hear with help of device ie. cochlear implant;
- 1 underprivileged kashmiri pandit male for pancreatic cancer operation.

Gender Sensitisation & Legal Literacy Awareness - With aim to sensitise young persons, promote gender equality and break stereotypes. SAFMA partnered with PARI for 2nd National Convention on Prevention of Violence Against Women and Children "महिला एवं बाल सुरक्षा मिशन" 2029". **Legal literacy manuals developed by SAFMA on Prevention of Violence Against Women, Disability Justice & Prevention, Cyber crime etc were distributed**, and President spoke on Women's Safety. Convention activities included Screening of hindi film SIYA; All India Essay & Painting Competition, on theme:-Women's rights: A child's vision of equality/"महिला सुरक्षा के लिए मेरा दृष्टिकोण; Discussion on Role of Influencers, Faith Leaders, & Media in Driving Behavioural Change/ identifying challenges & solutions, play & rap song by students, Screening Short Film 'DEVI'.

Law and Women & Child Rights

- **Writ WP(CrI) 514/22** was filed by SAFMA in Supreme Court for enforcement of fundamental rights of victims of sexual violence seeking relief that Inquiry be completed expeditiously, not exceeding 60 days; Immediate/Time Bound Disbursal of Compensation/ Interim Financial Relief as per R.9 of NALSA Scheme 2018; All the State Govt/UTs to Publicize Scheme; Uniformity in Procedures & Compensation amount per order in WP(C) 565/2012; in the definition of "**Sexual Assault Victims**" in Rule 1(o) NALSA Scheme included should be offences under POCSO; Mandatory Reporting of FIRs by Police to SLISA/ DLISA; Application for Compensation allowed to be filed by victim/dependents or guardian under section 357 A (4) CrPC and Rule 5 NALSA Scheme; All the States & UTs to follow the model NALSA Scheme; Standardized Monitoring System ensuring Simple Procedures & Time Bound decision in applications.
- WP(C) 9898/2019 in Delhi High Court for **usage of Hindi** to record victims'/witness depositions in Delhi's 6 District courts including POCSO courts & JJ BOARDS. In spite of giving evidence in Hindi, the testimony is recorded in English, denying child victims of sexual assault justice. They have no idea what has been recorded, nor what they deposed correctly recorded. FIR as stated by victim in Hindi; statement under S.164 CrPC in judge's own handwriting in Hindi; but language changes to English for testimony before court, which is not permissible as per Supreme Court judgement in *Naim Ahmed vs State* (2023).

HUMAN RIGHTS - In furtherance of SAFMA's objective of protection of HUMAN RIGHTS complaints to authorities regarding human rights violations :-

1. **Police Apathy in Rape Case of Minor Girl Trafficked from Rajgarh, MP** – Complaint to the NCPCR regarding failure of MP Police to register FIR in case of 13-year-old girl kidnapped from Rajgarh & trafficked to Ahmedabad. Despite provision for Zero FIR, the



Working for rape victims SAFMA found they are denied Access to Justice & Fair treatment, Restitution, Compensation and compelled to forfeit the right to live with dignity. For the enforcement of their fundamental rights guaranteed under articles 14 and 21 of Constitution of India SAFMA filed Writ Petition WP(Crl) 514/22 & is pending.



victim's family made to approach multiple police stations before obtaining a court order directing registration of FIR. Medical examination revealed the girl was pregnant, despite which she faced undue delays and negligence in obtaining medical care and abortion services.

- ii. **Five-Year-Old Girl Denied Emergency Treatment in Hapur, UP** – Complaint to NHRC, DN. 72457/CR/2025, regarding tragic death of a five-year-old girl who allegedly died without receiving treatment at hospital in Hapur, UP, after hospital staff insisted on advance payment of Rs.20,000 before commencing emergency care. The complaint highlighted that denial of emergency treatment violates the child's fundamental right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution. The Commission to call for a report from the Chief Medical Officer and hold the hospital accountable for refusing emergency treatment, including ensuring effective implementation of the NHRC's Charter of Patients' Rights by all hospitals and clinical establishments, to guarantee timely and non-discriminatory healthcare.
- iii. **Revival of Polyandry in Himachal Pradesh** – Complaint to NHRC, DN. 85653/CR/2025, File No. 155/8/10/2025-WC, concerning news reports indicating revival of polyandry in parts of Himachal Pradesh. This seriously violate women's fundamental rights to equality, dignity, health, bodily integrity & life guaranteed under the Constitution; and Polyandry reinforces gender inequality, compromising a woman's autonomy in personal & reproductive decision-making, apart from heightening risks of marital rape & sexual violence. The Commission requested to call for a detailed report from Himachal Pradesh State authorities and the measures proposed to safeguard women's rights.
- iv. **Violation of Children's FRs under Articles 21 & 21A** – Complaint to NHRC, DN. 107176/CR/2025, regarding reports of children in Neemuch Dist, Madhya Pradesh being compelled to cross the crocodile-infested Chambal River daily by boat in order to attend school. Highlighted was the State's constitutional obligation to ensure not only access to education but also safe transportation for school-going children. The Commission requested to direct the Madhya Pradesh Govt to provide a school bus or other secure transport facility to guarantee safe access to education.
- v. **Negligence and Dereliction of Duty by the Child Welfare Committee** – Complaint on 04.09.2025 to NCPCR concerning case of a 15-year-old orphan girl from Chhatarpur Dist, MP, who was allegedly raped again by the same accused after the Panna District Child Welfare Committee handed her over to the accused's family while he was out on bail. According to the Chhatarpur Police, the survivor had gone missing in January and was recovered in February from Gurugram, Haryana. Complaint sought immediate intervention by the Commission to ensure arrest of accused, examine the role and accountability of the CWC, provide appropriate protection & rehabilitation to the survivor, and ensure her education continues.
- vi. **Woman drugged, gang raped; then raped again by cops** - Complaint to NHRC DNo.139637/CR/2025 Case No. 24660/24/54/2025-WC regarding news report revealing that UP Police appears to be in a dangerous state of disrepair with human rights violations being committed with impunity, as per report Times of India report titled "UP horror: Woman drugged, gang raped by 4; then raped again by 2 cops who extorted Rs 50k to "act against accused". The Commission requested to hold the State of Uttar Pradesh accountable by directing strict compliance with the mandatory registration of FIRs in all cognizable offences, increasing women's representation in the police force, ensuring effective implementation of One Stop Centres with survivor-centric services, furnishing data on women police personnel and One Stop Centres, and establishing measurable performance indicators and accountability mechanisms for police handling crimes against women.
- vii. **Suicides among Children**- Complaint to NHRC No.145425/CR/2025 being concerning alarming rise in





suicides among children. Attention was drawn to a recent news report titled “52 ‘Sorrys’ In 4 Minutes Ignored: Class 8 Boy Jumps From School Building.” The Commission requested to take cognizance exercising its jurisdiction under S.12 of The Protection of Human Rights Act to: Map and document child suicides nationwide; Investigate systemic and root causes within the education system, rather than limiting inquiries to individual incidents and police action; Recommend preventive measures to curb such tragedies; Strengthen mental-health support systems within schools, including counselling services and trained professionals; Formulate and enforce anti-discrimination policies to address bullying, humiliation, exclusion, and academic pressure.

viii. Witch-Hunting in Assam - Complaint to NHRC No. 11/3/8/2026-WC regarding the grave incident involving violations of the right to life guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution, as reported in The Times of India dated 01.01.2026, in a news item titled “Couple killed as mob torches their home in Assam”. Officials have reportedly stated that superstition and misinformation continue to fuel such crimes in the region, despite witch-hunting being a punishable offence under the Assam Witch Hunting (Prohibition, Prevention and Protection) Act. These incidents are often deeply rooted in gender discrimination and disputes over property & land, with women & elderly couples being disproportionately targeted, dispossessed, and subjected to extreme violence under the guise of superstition. The Commission requested to take cognizance and hold State of Assam accountable, by seeking detailed Report on the Implementation and Enforcement of the Assam Witch Hunting Act, including Preventive Measures, Prosecutions, and Victim Protection Mechanisms.



CHILD RIGHTS - SAFMA has been working in field of CHILD RIGHTS since its inception, and for protection of children from sexual violence. Child rights Workshops conducted for basti children in Indore, MP on “**Good Touch Bad Touch**” & POCSO Act followed by distribution of caps, stationary & soft drinks to the children. Partners SAFMA, PARI, Humans for Humanity & Prayas. (175 children). SAFMA believes that education is key to breaking the cycle of violence and poverty, and has given financial assistance towards fees of 4 girls. Committed support to two schools - *Maitreyi Kanya Gurukul Ashram, Haridwar*, providing free education to orphan & underprivileged girls through the Gurukul system, with emphasis on character development and curriculum like science & mathematics; and to *Maulana Azad School for Special Children, Delhi*, towards support of teachers' salaries and education of special needs and socially excluded children from economically weaker sections of society. The school has eight classes up to Standard V with 180 students and is dedicated to their empowerment through inclusive education.



ENVIRONMENT SAFMA reiterated its commitment to **ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABILITY** highlighting its active role in environmental conservation and preservation, especially in view of the recent climate-induced calamities and the growing impact of extreme weather due to climate change. Supported HESCO (Himalayan Environmental Studies and Conservation Organization) for purpose of environment and rural mountain development. HESCO's goal is to increase the discharge of mountain springs that are suffering, and to manage the storage and distribution of the water.



IPR SAFMA continues its efforts in protecting Intellectual Property Rights of Artisans, specifically continuation of registration of AUTHORISED USERS /craftsperson given Notice of expiration for Renewal (Authorised User) under Section 18(4) of the Geographical Indications of Good (Registration & Protection) ACT 1999 and Rule 60(1) of Geographical Indications of Good (Registration & Protection) RULES 1999 regarding RENEWAL.