

# **Awareness on human rights, role of police by SHRC**

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**GANGTOK, April 10:** An awareness programme on human rights and role of police in protecting human rights of a citizen was held at the State police headquarters here today.

Sikkim State Human Rights Commission (SSHRC) had organised the programme chaired by its chairperson Justice N.K. Jain and attended by Sikkim Police director general (DGP) A. Mohananey, resource persons

and officials from police and other departments.

The DGP opined that people have a different view of the police in the country and 80 percent of people fear them and do not want to seek help in any way. “We encourage officers to interact with them and maintain transparency as police organisation plays a major role in shaping the society,” he said.

Additional chief secretary S.C. Gupta briefed on the history of human rights. He

expressed that for a police officer, human rights is a part of their job. “Human rights should be universally applicable and available to everyone. The main causes of concern are medical negligence, child or bonded labour, police atrocity against student protesters. What is not noticed is the main problem,” said Gupta.

ADGP (law and order) Akshay Sachdeva, in his address, highlighted the role played by Sikkim Police in various fields, with special

references to drug busts, night patrolling, thefts and burglaries. “We are proud to say that Sikkim Police is firm and strict regarding law. We do not tolerate if a police officer is mistreating a criminal,” expressed Sachdeva.

SSHRC chairman Justice Jain detailed on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948 and urged on the need of recognising human rights at an international level. He expressed that Sikkim Police have an active role in

protecting human rights.

Commission official T.G. Bhutia stated that human rights of a citizen and police personnel should go hand-in-hand. In order to make it effective, members of the police department should be educated to protect the rights of a citizen. They should play a positive role in maintaining the liberty, equality and fraternity of every citizen, said Bhutia.

The programme concluded with an interactive session with the police officials.