

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION IN PUNJAB: SOME ISSUES AND CONCERNS

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ABSTRACT

Punjab---a Punjabi speaking state was created in 1966 after a great turmoil. It was indeed a momentous event as Punjabi became the official language of a state for the first time in history: an honour it did not have even during the regime of the emperor Ranjit Singh.¹ The State also witnessed a great development in the form of green revolution which produced far-reaching implications for it. Green revolution made Punjab as the food bowl of India. But this “Ann Data” (food giver) state could not remain at peace and gradually the challenges of green revolution started haunting especially the small and middle leveled farmers and farm labourers and started resulting in the suicides of farmers due to many reasons. The State of Punjab along with the issue of violation of farmers’ rights equally shares its concerns about the status of women, which is again an important issue of human rights violation. The paper attempts to cover two main areas of human rights violations amongst a variety of issues like migratory concerns, drug trafficking, indebtedness in rural Punjab, human rights abuses by the police, child labour, female foeticide, contaminated and depleting water resources etc. in Punjab.

KEY WORDS: Green Revolution, Farmer’s Suicides, Gender concerns, Women Empowerment.

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