

APF Member Report - Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka

Introduction

The Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka (HRCSL) has been established under an Act of Parliament, Act No.21 of 1996. The Commission consists of 5 members, out of whom one member will be appointed to act as the chairperson. The appointment process of the commissioners was determined by the said Act and the 17th amendment to the Sri Lankan constitution. However, in 2010 September the 17th amendment to the constitution was repealed by the 18th amendment to the constitution.

By the introduction of the 18th amendment to the constitution, the ‘constitutional council’ which was empowered to issue recommendations on the appointment of commissioners to the HRCSL (as per the 17th amendment), was abolished. The constitutional council was replaced by a ‘ Parliamentary Council’ of which the President will seek ‘observations’ in making appointments of Commissioners to HRCSL.

Therefore, after a lapse of 18 months Commissioners were appointed to HRCSL on 18th February 2011, by the President based on the observations of the Parliamentary Council.

The Act of establishment specifies the functions of the Commission as follows;

- (a) to inquire into, and investigate, complaints regarding procedures, with a view to ensuring compliance with the provisions of the Constitution relating to fundamental rights and to promoting respect for, and observance of, fundamental rights
- (b) To inquire into and investigate, complaints regarding infringements or imminent infringements of fundamental rights, and to provide for resolution thereof by conciliation and mediation;
- (c) To advise and assists the government in formulating legislation and administrative directives and procedures, in furtherance of, the promotion and protection of fundamental rights;
- (d) To make recommendations to the Government regarding measures which should be taken to ensure that national laws and administrative practices are in accordance with international human rights norms and standards.
- (e) To make recommendations to the Government on the need to subscribe or accede to treaties and other international instruments in the field of human rights;
- (f) To promote awareness of, and provide education in relation to, human rights.

In addition, Paris Principles are also taken into consideration in the formulation and the implementations of functions of HRCSL.

The HRCSL consists of a head office based in Colombo and 10 regional offices and 1 mobile office based in different regions of the country. The head office functions are divided into 4 operational divisions, namely Investigations & Inquiries, Education & Training , Monitoring & Review and Administration & Finance.

Any citizen in the country can make a verbal or written complaint in person, by post, fax or telephone in English, Sinhala or Tamil languages. The inquiries & investigations are also carried out in all these 3 languages as appropriate to the parties to the violation. The commission also proactively intervenes into human rights violations, without any formal complaint being made by the parties concerned.

Organizational and functional reforms to the HRCSL during the time period relevant to the report

Following the appointment of Commissioners in February 2011, several measures have been taken by the commissioners to ensure effectiveness and efficiency of the functions of the commission.

- Division of responsibilities among the Commissioners in guiding & overseeing functions of the commission.

The HRCSL has functioned without commissioners for a considerably long period of time. This has hindered the Commission's progress & active discharge of their duties and jeopardized its efficient & effective functioning to a great extent. Apart from the overall responsibility of guiding the future direction of the commission, the commissioners have divided the responsibilities among themselves, in guiding and overseeing different nature of functions in the commission. This has enabled them to focus special attention on all the areas of work in the commission.

Even though the appointment of the commissioners are not made on a fulltime basis, it is worthy to acknowledge the commitment displayed by the majority of commissioners by putting in many extra hours of solid work at the commission to streamline the functions and the processes within the HRCSL.

- Streamlining of administrative and financial processes in the commission and resolving human resource issues.

Administrative & financial processes within the HRCSL were in disarray, creating numerous issues for efficient execution of functions at head office and regional offices. The commissioners have taken steps to reorganize & streamline these processes. The commissioners have been able to guide the finance unit to come up with a comprehensive budget forecast to be forwarded to the treasury for 2012, which would be sufficient to cover the expenses HRCSL has to bear to execute their mandate without any functional lapses.

Also, the new commission has taken steps to resolve many human resource issues within the commission, including issuing of permanent employment to a large number of staff who had been serving the commission on temporary contractual basis. All these measures will contribute towards increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the functions of HRCSL.

- Appointment of a panel of retired judges to expedite the clearing of backlog of cases.

At the time of the appointment of commissioners, there was a backlog of unresolved cases, belonging to different categories of violations. As it was a difficult task for the commission to resolve these pending matters, in addition to attending to their regular day to day activities, the new commissioners appointed a panel of retired judges to inquire into & mediate or make recommendations to resolve these matters which had been dormant for a long period in need of justice.

- Intervention into non implementation of recommendations issued by HRCSL, by different authorities.

During the period the commission functioned without commissioners, though recommendations have been made by the HRCSL, most of the authorities have not complied with the instructions owing to the reason of non legality of such recommendations issued by the HRCSL, operating without commissioners. Also, in certain instances even the recommendations issued by previous commissioners have not been adhered to by authorities in the absence of binding power of such recommendations, as per the mandate of the HRCSL.

Therefore, the new commission has on many occasions taken steps to intervene into non compliance of publicly important recommendations and had been successful in persuading the authorities concerned in complying.

- Reactivation of the “ 24 hour hot line” for public complaints.

For many years, the HRCSL has been operating a ‘ 24 hour hot line’ to entertain complaints from the public. Though this function operated from the head office, this was a service much valued by the public and utilized by public from all the regions. However, due to internal administrative issues this hotline was non operational since August 2010. The new commissioners have been able to successfully resolve this issue and the services of the ‘ 24 hour hotline’ has been reactivated since May 2011.

- Establishment of a separate complaints desk for more vulnerable groups & violations that require immediate action in order to prioritize interventions to violations concerning such groups and violations of such nature.

Under this prioritization, a separate complaints desk has been established to deal with issues of women, children, elders, persons with disabilities, human rights defenders and categories of cases such as torture & disappearances.

- Proactive involvement of the HRCSL on nationally important human rights issues.

One of the major criticisms levelled at the commission had been their lack of proactive involvement on HR issues. HRCSL has recently taken steps on several instances to proactively intervene into nationally important human rights issues and situations.

- a) Deaths of 2 youths in police custody of Agulana Police. (Western Province).-The commission has already issued a report, following their observations.
- b)The death of a youth due to Police assault at a demonstration held by factory workers of the free trade zone in Katunayake. (Western Province)
- c)Discriminatory forcible registration methods carried out for registration of persons in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka. – The HRCSL has planned to launch a fact finding mission on the issue.
- d) Leadership training given to university students in military camps. – The HRCSL had discussions with Ministry of Higher Education, Military and student unions and have offered their advice & input in restructuring the training modules.
- e) The disappearance of human rights defender Razeek Pattani. – The commission held discussions with a group consisting of human rights defenders, NGOs and government authorities.
- f) The HRCSL conducting 3 election monitoring visits in the western province, killinochchi and Jaffna prior to and during the local government elections held in June 2011.
- g) HRCSL actively involving in the harassment case concerning 2 young girl children in Katthankudy in Batticaloa district.

- HRCSL Annual Reports and the Website.

The new commission has taken measures to complete compiling the 2009 Annual Report in English, which will be translated into Sinhala and Tamil and published for dissemination. The commission is also in the process of compiling the 2010 Annual Report.

The commission has taken steps to update the HRCSL website regularly and also to include information on the regional level work.

- Renewed commitment of HRCSL for structured regular interaction with civil society on human rights issues.

The HRCSL's engagement/ interaction with civil society had minimized after 2006. After the year 2006, the commission had not indulged in active engagement with civil society up until 2010 April. The annual work plan of the UN Joint Programme on human rights included activities to revive the engagement/ cooperation between HRCSL and civil society actors according to the needs identified at the capacity assessments prior to the commencement of the project. The regional offices were more than eager to hold consultative forums with civil society actors at regional levels. During the reporting period UN Joint programme on human rights managed to facilitate 29 consultative forums with civil society through regional offices of

HRCSL, which were well attended by a variety of civil society actors, had a structured agenda and which lead to continues interaction between HRCSL regional offices and civil society at regional levels. During the reporting period 2 meetings were held at national level.

However, the new commissioners display a very positive attitude towards a constant & regular engagement with civil society. The commissioners have held several discussions with civil society groups following the 1st meeting held at national level in June 2011, after the appointment of commissioners. The commissioners are in the process of developing a mechanism for regular consultations with civil society.

Divisional Functions of the HRCSL

Investigations and Inquiries

This division is entrusted with a huge workload, as most of the commissions' work is complaints driven.

The summary of the statistical information of the complaints/investigations/inquiries for the year 2010 are given below;

Complaints categorized by the regions.

The Region	No of complaints received
Colombo	
Kandy	579
Matara	542
Anuradhapura	605
Kalmunai	204
Batticaloa	329
Ampara	169
Trinco	188
Badulla	195
Vavuniya	2642 (including matters in tracing whereabouts of displaced persons)
Jaffna	243

The investigations and inquiries unit also conducts surprise monitoring visits to detention centres such as Police Stations, Military camps, Prisons, Probation homes and temporary detention centres which operated in the Northern region in the aftermath of defeating terrorism.

The region	Number of surprise monitoring visits	The categories of detention places covered
Colombo	670	Police stations
Jaffna	127	Prisons
Vavuniya	227	Rehabilitation centres
Trinco	100	Welfare camps/Centres
Batticaloa	330	Detention Camps
Ampara	132	
Kalmunai	58	
Kandy	275	
Anuradhapura	210	
Badula	256	
Matara	360	

Year Report 2010

No. of Complaints received	-	4205
No. of complaints within the mandate of HRC	-	2832
No. of complaints Not within the mandate of HRC (Cannot Proceed)	-	1373

Categorization of Complaints

Personal Liberty

Torture	-	361
Harassments	-	241
Arrest/Detention	-	308
Detention Conditions	-	07
Extra Judicial Killings	-	03
Death in Custody	-	08
Missing Persons	-	67
Abduction	-	02
Inaction Complaints	-	337

Employment

Recruitment	-	85
Retirement	-	08
Employee Benefits	-	59
Promotion	-	112
Service Extension	-	10
Service Conditions	-	149
Quarters	-	01
Transfers	-	149
Termination	-	66
Interdiction	-	56
EPF	-	31
Salary	-	47
Pension	-	93

Education

Admission to Popular Schools	-	256
University Admission	-	05
Education Premises	-	03
Degree	-	01

Diploma	-	02
Certificates matter	-	14
Disciplinary matters of Students	-	47
Examination	-	06
Election Students Council	-	02
Sports Suspension	-	01
Sports Selection	-	01
Postal	-	01
Land Matters / Property Matter	-	107
Compensations	-	32
Permits /Tender	-	09
Farmers welfare	-	16
Samurdhi Economic Welfare	-	06
Insurance (Social Welfare)	-	04
Water	-	13
Road	-	19
Electricity	-	34
Medical Negligence	-	02
Voting Rights	-	15
Migrant workers Rights	-	18
Religion	-	03
Freedom of Expression	-	06
Intellectual Property rights	-	01
Environmental		
Public nuisance	-	07
Air Pollution	-	01

2 special cases handled by Investigations & inquiries unit are highlighted below;

Disappearance of Pattani Raseek- Civil society activist

Mr. Pattani Raseek was a Human Rights Defender and at the time of his disappearance he was the Managing Trustee of the Community Trust Fund. Mr. Raseek's family and other interested parties lodged complaints with Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka with regards to his disappearance. Mr. Raseek was last seen on 4th February 2010 and thereafter close associates and family received many phone calls from presumed abductors demanding ransom.

Raseek's family lodged complaints with the police and the case was pending in Magistrate Courts. Human Rights Commission conducted an inquiry with aggrieved parties and Respondents (police) to ascertain the progress of Police Investigation.

Further to that Commission also conducted special meeting with Civil Society members to discuss this matter.

The police did not arrest the main suspect in spite of serious evidence highlighting his alleged involvement in the case.

Finally after 1½ years suspects were arrested and police exhumed the body of Mr. Raseek based on their statements. Presently, the Commission is closely monitoring the progress of Police Investigations.

Land Rights of Displaced families

A study conducted by National Protection and durable solutions for internally displaced persons project of Human Rights commission revealed that number of families who have deeds and other authorized documents to prove their land right have been omitted from resettlement process in Mullikulam Mannar district.

The commission conducted an inquiry to see the respective authorities have followed procedural due process of Land Acquisition by the state since a Sri Lankan Naval base was established in the said area.

Education and Training Division

The education and training division is engaged in raising awareness on human rights within different categories of stakeholder groups and offering training & capacity building.

During the time period concerned the work carried out through this division is summarized below;

- Conducting 2 fact finding missions to Paddipalai Divisional Secretariat area in the Batticaloa District in the Eastern Province in Sri Lanka. (24th July 2011)
 - 1) To study the issues faced by ex female combatants in receiving proper rehabilitation assistance and combating social discrimination.
 - 2) Poor assistance received from government by people with disabilities.

- Organizing a meeting with former Inspector General of Police , DIG in charge of Police and DIG in charge of legal issues, in order to enhance the links between HRCSL and the Police department with a view to minimizing HR violations happening through the Police department.
- Holding discussions with Commissioner General of Prisons to regularize human rights educational activities to the prison officials and to offer assistance in formulating policies within prison department.
- Conducting awareness raising programmes to staff of mental hospital in Angoda, Western Province on rights of mentally ill persons.

Educational and awareness raising programmes carried out during the relevant time period are summarized as follows:

The Region	Awareness Programmes or Trainings Conducted	Target Group	Aims or Intentions of the Trainings/Awareness Raising	Remarks
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Colombo	<p><i>Awareness 25</i></p> <p>Training</p> <p>Training (2 days and 5 days)</p>	<p>* Nurses, Doctors, minor staffs, officers representing the Administration of the Mental Hospital</p> <p>* Excise Officers (belonging to different capacities)</p> <p>* Police Officers (police officers with 35 to 45 years of experience, police constables,</p> <p>* Staff of the Members of Parliament</p> <p>* Military Police Personnel</p> <p>* HRCSL Head Office Staff & Regional Coordinators</p> <p>* Sri Lanka Army Commissioned & Non-Commissioned Officers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preliminary awareness for the Mental Hospital Staff to make awareness on their rights, patients rights, to identify stressful situations and manage stress prior to conducting a research on issues identified. - To update knowledge on human rights, fundamental rights, torture prevention for Excise and Police Officers - Knowledge on fundamental rights and human rights, and as the staff of the Members of Parliament to train them on best practices and good governance - Training and awareness on women’s rights and offences to empower members of women’s organizations - Currently the new Commission is making reforms relating to capacity building of the HRCSL staff. One of the identified areas is monitoring & Evaluation of work. - Sri Lanka Army is conducting programmes for the Commissioned and Non-Commissioned officers to up date their knowledge on laws. The HRCSL is being invited to conduct different types of awareness and training programmes. 	<p>* HRCSL conducted a series of awareness programmes for the staff of the Mental Hospital on how to manage stress and provide a better service.</p> <p>One of the purposes was to identify issues that hinder providing a better service and incidents where they would be in stressful situations.</p> <p>These awareness’s will follow with a research to make recommendations on improvement of services at the hospital.</p> <p>* some programmes were HRCSL initiatives, while others were invitations received by the Commission</p>
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<p>Kandy</p>	<p><i>Awareness 14</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School Children - Forest Rangers - Teachers - Youth - Police Constables - Members of Women's Society - Army Officers - Staff of Divisional Secretariats - Union members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness on child rights, child abuse, fundamental rights, human rights - Awareness on the Torture Convention, HRCSL Act - To commemorate the International Women's Day 	
<p>Anuradhapura</p>	<p><i>Awareness 21</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Army Officers - General Public - Members of the Civil Society Organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness on child rights, child abuse, fundamental rights, human rights - Awareness on the Torture Convention, HRCSL Act 	<p>* some of the programmes were conducted in collaboration with the National Child Protection Authority and the District Child Protection Committees</p>

Kalmunai	<i>Awareness15</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - School Children & Teachers - Estate workers - Pre School Teachers - Akkarapat tu DS Division Grama Sevakas, SSO, and T.O - Members of the Fisheries Community - NGO Staffs - Rangers and Police Officers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To make awareness on various laws and international standards e.g., on economic, social and cultural rights - Awareness on Fishermans rights & providing legal advice - Commemoration of Torture Victims Day 	
Ampara	<i>Awareness13</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students - Principals - Young People - General 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness on women's rights, human rights & fundamental rights, International Covenant on Civil & Political Rights and child rights 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Public - Civilians - Community Leaders - Government Officers - Police Officers - Nursery Teachers - Staff of Divisional Secretariats 		
Trincomalee	<i>Training 03</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inspectors - Sub Inspectors - Police Constables - Police Sergeants - Chief Inspectors - Inspectors - Stakeholders - Village level society members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness on powers & functions of the HRCSL, arrest and Detention, Torture Act, documentation relating to HRCSL inquiries, issues related to early marriages 	

Batticaloa	<p><i>Awareness13</i></p> <p>Special Meetings 14 and Awareness 14</p> <p>Two fact findings on Disabled Peoples Rights and Rehabilitation of Ex-Female Combatants</p>	<p>Police Officers</p> <p>Child Protection Officers and other stakeholders</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To up date knowledge on human rights, fundamental rights, role of the HRCSL and torture prevention 	<p>Sponsor by OXFAM NGO</p> <p>* UNICEF funded to hold meetings and make awareness on child rights protection</p> <p>A booklet was produced in Tamil medium to distribute among the stakeholders</p> <p>This was followed by two fact findings and a seminar</p>
Matara	<p><i>Awareness 08</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth corps - Police Apprentices - Grama Niladhari Officers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness on human rights, fundamental rights, functions of the HRCSL 	
Badulla	<p><i>Awareness07</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Civil Society members - Army Officers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Awareness on human rights, fundamental rights, functions of the HRCSL 	

		- Grama Sewaka Officers		
Jaffna	<i>Awareness 02</i>	- Grama Niladari's - General Public	- Awareness on human rights, fundamental rights, functions of the HRCSL - To commemorate the Human Rights Day	
Vavuniya	<i>Awareness 01</i>	- Home Guards	- <i>To commemorate the Torture Victim's Day</i>	* due to prevailed situation awareness raisings were delayed

Monitoring and Review

The work carried out by this division is summarized below;

- Liaising with Road Development Authority to intervene into the difficulties faced by children with visual impairments attending the school for the hearing & visual impaired in Ratmalana, Western Province.
This was discovered through monitoring of electronic media and discussions were held with road development authority, after which the authorities have agreed to take needed action.
- Conducting a fact finding mission on persons with disabilities caused due to natural causes and war in Batticaloa, Eastern Province.
It was identified that the numbers of PWDs have increased and that special interventions are in need to promote & protect their rights.
- Conducting a fact finding mission on the conditions of migrant fishermen living in the islands of Bathalangunduwa and Palliyawatte in North Western Province of the island.

Most of these fishermen have migrated from North and East during the conflict period and are occupying these islands and are engaged in their usual livelihood of fishing.

The fact finding mission was conducted to identify challenges to their economic, social & cultural rights. The outcomes of the mission will be shared with relevant authorities to ensure better protection of rights for these communities.

Already a government state officials' educational network has been established to address issues on right to education of the children belonging to these families.

- Conducting a research on persons of African origin living in Puttalam district in North Western Province.
A monitoring visit was conducted in Sirampyady village in puttalam district. The aim of this study will be to offer support in preserving their identity and their inherent cultural values and traditions.
- Conducting a research to identify issues at the Training School for Youthful Offenders in Pallansena in the Western Province of Sri Lanka.
Following the identified issues, the commission made recommendations to the Ministry of Justice and Law Reform to relocate the training school to Ambepussa, sabaragamuwa Province. On the invitation of the Ministry, the commission also conducted a feasibility study of the proposed new location to determine its suitability.
- Regular visits to state children's homes conducted at Colombo and regional levels in collaboration with the regional offices.
- Conducting awareness programmes on child rights through regional offices.
- Carrying out regular visits and reviews to Methsevana state house of detention, Colombo District in western province.
The monitoring and review unit has been regularly monitoring the above place of detention upon complaints received by human rights groups. The HRCSL is trying to ensure better living conditions for the children and that the detentions are in accordance with proper court orders . the HRCSL is working in close collaboration with Ministry of Child Development & Women's empowerment and Ministry of Social Services on resolving these issues.

Projects of HRCSL

1) UNFPA project

The project has formulated a module for guidance of state officials on gender based violence.

2) UNICEF child rights project with Batticaloa Regional office.

3) IDP project.

The National Protection and Durable Solution for Internally Displaced Person's Project was established in June 2002 to protect and promote rights of persons under threat of displacement, internally displaced persons and returnees. The Project operates in the conflict affected districts namely Batticaloa, Trincomalee, Jaffna, Vavuniya Mannar, Kilinochchi, Mulathivue, Puttalam, Anuradhapura and Colombo office operates as the coordination office. It is the vision of the Project to ensure "A life with dignity for persons under threat of displacement, internally displaced persons, and returnees" and the mission is to act as a legal guardian to them.

The strategies of the Project are

- (i) Ensure protection through capacitating service providers and protection mechanisms (Responsive Actions)
- (ii) Capacitating internally displaced persons (Creating an enabling environment), and
- (iii) Proactive and reactive intervention in human rights protection (Remedial Actions).

The Project engages in human rights monitoring, researches and advocacy, capacity building, coordination and providing relief and redresses. During the past, the Project had dealt with over 13,000 public complaints and provided over 10,000 legal consultations. To monitor the human rights situation, the Project had done over 755 monitoring missions. Meanwhile the Project had trained and made aware over 65,000 persons under deferent awareness programmes and training programmes. The Project was successful in drafting the National Policy on resettlement in 2007 and the "Bill of Protection of Rights of IDPs" – IDP Bill, in 2008. There are over 2100 Human Rights Defenders are deployed in the filled by the Project by providing 7 months extensive training programme. The Project website is www.idpsrilanka.lk .Details needed

4) UN Joint Programme on HR- Human Rights Commission component.

This is a project which was initiated in 2010 January by several UN agencies (UNDP, UNOHCHR, UNFPA) and funded by UNDP, to work in collaboration with Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka to upgrade the commission in order to enable the commission to reach status A in ICC rating for National Human Rights Institutions.

The UNDP established a project monitoring unit in order to support the implementation and monitoring of the project activities. This is a project approved by the Cabinet and the Annual Work Plans in 2010 and 2011 were developed by PMU in consultation with HRCSL, UNDP and UN senior HR advisor. The activity plans were developed mainly taking into consideration the reasons for downgrading of the commission. All activities are planned and implemented jointly by HRCSL and PMU.

The main reasons for the initiation of this project were ICC degrading HRC to Grade B, the lack of a strong national mechanism/ network to protect and monitor HR in the country, lack of awareness on HR among duty bearers as well as right holders and presently, HRCSL been the only available independent mechanism of redress against HR violations in SL.

Main areas of project work for the reporting period in 2010 and 2011 are as below;

- ❖ Strengthening of HRCSL with particular emphasis on regional offices to enable them to effectively execute their mandate.
- ❖ Strengthening and streamlining the complaints handling mechanism of the HRCSL at national and regional level .
- ❖ Facilitating HRCSL to disseminate information to the public through quarterly & annual reports, the website and international and local HR material.
- ❖ Engagement of the HRC with civil society and other key government & non government stakeholders strengthened.
- ❖ Coordination mechanisms within HRCSL strengthened to effectively deliver their mandate.
- ❖ A mechanism revolving around HRC developed , to make recommendations to the government to ensure that national laws & administrative practices are in accordance with international HR norms & standards and that government subscribe & accede to treaties and other international instruments in the field of HR.

Key Results for the reporting period in 2010 and 2011

- ❖ Conducting capacity needs assessment of the 10 HRCSL regional offices.
- ❖ Providing material support (IT equipment and furniture) particularly to all 10 regional offices and HRCSL Head Office, to strengthen their operational capacity.
- ❖ Conducting 2 trainings in Basic Psycho Social skills for head office staff and regional office staff; 1 training on leadership and team building for HRCSL Head Office staff and 1 training on monitoring and evaluation conducted for HRCSL head office staff & regional coordinators.
- ❖ Organizing and facilitating 5- two day residential experience sharing and progress review meetings between HRCSL HO senior staff and all 10 Regional Coordinators.

- ❖ Supporting 5 monitoring visits by HRCSL HO senior staff to their regional offices. And supporting visits by commissioners to 3 district offices.
- ❖ Supporting 3 election monitoring visits by HRCSL in western province, Jaffna and Killinochchi.
- ❖ Facilitating & supporting the process of reactivating the HRCSL website.
- ❖ Supporting the publishing & dissemination of HRCSL 2008 Annual Report. Supporting the publication of 2009 and 2010 Annual Reports of the Human Rights Commission of Sri Lanka.
- ❖ Supporting 1 quarterly news bulletin by HRCSL.
- ❖ Supporting HRCSL to translate and publish leaflets, booklets and other educational material on HR.
- ❖ Organizing and facilitating meetings between HRCSL & Civil Society actors.(3 completed at national level, 29 completed at regional levels).
- ❖ Producing a documentary on evolution of HR_ for educational purposes.
- ❖ Obtaining APF commitment review and revise the complaints handling mechanism of the HRCSL and a follow up training session on the revised mechanism. (Postponed to 2011- Pending Commissioners)
- ❖ Support provided for the international HR day celebrations by the HRCSL on 10th Dec 2010 in Anuradhapura.
- ❖ Support provided to obtain services of a consultant to address nationally important HR issues and support the commission to engage proactively on HR issues and with human rights activists groups.
- ❖ Organizing and facilitating basic training on human rights to civil society actors in the regions, through the regional offices.
- ❖ Organizing a sensitization workshop on Human Rights to Members of Parliament. (Due in September)