## **UN Body Defers NHRC Accreditation**

## Source: TH

The <u>Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI)</u>, which is based in Geneva and affiliated with the <u>United Nations (UN)</u>, has postponed granting accreditation to the **National Human Rights Commission of India (NHRC)** for the second consecutive year.

- The decision could impact India's voting rights at the <u>Human Rights Council</u> and certain UNGA bodies.
- GANHRI gives A-status to institutions that meet certain criteria for independence and effectiveness in protecting human rights.
  - The **NHRC** has been accredited 'A' Status since the beginning of the accreditation process for NHRIs in 1999, which it retained in 2006, 2011 and in 2017 also after the deferment.
    - However, in 2023 and 2024, India's NHRC had its A-status suspended for two consecutive years.
- The GANHRI latest report is still awaited. However, its previous report (2023 report) had cited a number of reasons for recommending the deferral. These included:
  - Composition: Lack of transparency in appointing members to the NHRC,
  - Appointment of police officers to oversee human rights investigations
  - Lack of gender and minority representation on the member panel.
  - NHRC has also failed to create conditions required to be "able to operate independent of government interference".

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