

# **National Conference on Combating Human Trafficking**

## Why in News?

Recently, the Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), inaugurated a daylong National Conference on 'Combating Human Trafficking in the Digital Era'.

The Commission organized the event in collaboration with Hidayatullah National Law University, Raipur, Chhattisgarh.

## **Key Points**

#### About the Conference:

- The conference examined the increasing exploitation of digital technologies in human trafficking.
- Discussions focused on the role of the internet, social media, <u>cryptocurrency</u>, and other online tools in facilitating trafficking crimes.
- Experts deliberated on preventive measures involving technology, law enforcement agencies, and community participation.

## Keynote Address by the Chairman:

- The Chairman highlighted various forms of digital trafficking, including sexual exploitation, labor exploitation, organ trafficking, and forced marriage.
- · He elaborated on recruitment strategies such as:
  - Active Recruitment ("Hook Fishing") Direct targeting of victims online.
  - Passive Recruitment ("Net Fishing") Using digital platforms to attract potential victims.
- He emphasized the **need for public awareness, stronger regulatory frameworks,** and technological solutions to counter digital exploitation.

#### Key Recommendations:

- Amend the <u>Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act (ITPA)</u> to clearly differentiate between child and adult trafficking and explicitly include cyber trafficking.
- Establish formal linkages between the ITPA and the IT Act to address digital trafficking-related legal gaps.
- Increase public awareness on self-reporting portals like the <u>Centralized Complaint and</u>
  Prevention of Women and <u>Children (CCPWC)</u> for improved public participation.
- Enhance training and resources for <u>Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs)</u> to tackle trafficking in the digital era.
- Improve data collection mechanisms to systematically track human trafficking cases across different categories for informed policymaking.
- Strengthen community engagement to encourage local communities to actively participate in preventing and reporting trafficking crimes.

# **National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)**

### About:

 It ensures the protection of <u>rights related to life</u>, <u>liberty</u>, equality, and dignity of individuals. • Rights guaranteed by the Indian Constitution and international covenants enforceable by Indian courts.

### Establishment:

- Established on 12<sup>th</sup> October 1993, under the Protection of Human Rights Act (PHRA), 1993.
- **Amended by** the Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Act, 2006, and Human Rights (Amendment) Act, 2019.
- Established in conformity with the Paris Principles, adopted for promoting and protecting human rights.

