



Republic of India

Joint Submission to the UN Universal Periodic Review

41st Session of the UPR Working Group

Report on Freedom of Expression and Opinion in India

Submitted by: Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA) and Human Rights Defenders' Alert-India (HRDA) with co-sponsorship of additional 2697 organisations and 1457 individuals (full list available in annex 1).

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Asian Forum for Human Rights Human Rights Defenders' Alert

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About the submitting organisations:

- A.** The Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (FORUM-ASIA) is a network of 85 member organisations across 23 countries, mainly in Asia. Founded in 1991, FORUM-ASIA works to strengthen movements for human rights and sustainable development through research, advocacy, capacity development and solidarity actions in Asia and beyond. It has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council and the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights.
- B.** Human Rights Defenders Alert (HRDA) – India is a national platform of human rights defenders for human rights defenders in India. Founded in 2010, it has more than 3000 individuals and organisations as members. HRDA initiates urgent action for the protection of human rights defenders under threat and attack.
- C.** This report is submitted by FORUM-ASIA, HRDA and FORUM-ASIA’s member organisations in India.
- D.** This joint submission is endorsed by additional 2697 organisations and 1457 individuals, including 2219 organisations and 1032 individuals that have opted to stay anonymous for fear of reprisals (full list available in annex 1).