



TRANSGENDER RIGHTS: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

ESTEEMED PANELISTS



Akshat Agarwal is a Research Fellow at the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, New Delhi. At Vidhi, he has worked on projects relating to making Indian laws inclusive for the LGBT+ community, the distribution of legislative powers between the union and states and withdrawal of care from terminally ill patients. His areas of research include healthcare, gender and sexuality and constitutional and administrative law. Akshat is an alumnus of the National Law School of India University, Bangalore. He has been published in peer reviewed journals as well as media publications such as The Wire, Live Mint, Firstpost etc.



Vivek Anand works as Chief Executive Officer of The Humsafar Trust (HST) which is India's first CBO of sexual minorities. He holds a degree in business management and is responsible for overall implementation of HIV prevention, care and support and treatment along with research, capacity building and advocacy projects. He has presented several papers in national and international conferences since 2002. He has been responsible for Institutionalizing organizational capacities and these systems are considered as model practices in community-based settings.



Simran Shaikh, has been a pioneer in India in raising the issues of people living with HIV (PLHIV) in the context of transgender and hijra communities. She is a strong advocate for Right to Health for all. Simran has developed the capacity of community-based organizations (CBOs) and networks that work for gender minorities. She has dedicated her professional life to human rights advocacy. She has been a consultant to national and international organizations on issues of gender and sexual minorities and intends to continue her work on health & human rights for the most marginalized communities in future. She is also the ex-UNAIDS PCB

Member from Asia Pacific region (2015- 2016). A graduate from Mumbai University currently pursuing her PHD in Trans Physiology, she currently works with India HIV/AIDS Alliance in New Delhi as a Project Lead for two interventions exclusively for transgender and Hijras in India. She is also leading a chamber of commerce for LGBTQI in India (creating entrepreneurship).



Amrita Sarkar has been involved with transgender activism for close to two decades and has been involved in numerous capacity building initiatives for transgender communities at the national and international level. She is one of the founding members and the Secretary of IRGT – A Global Network of Trans Women and HIV. She is also an active member of TPATH (Transgender Professional Association for Transgender Health). Amrita is currently working with Solidarity and Action Against The HIV Infection in India (SAATHII). Currently at SAATHII, she is leading a project titled 'Samata' (means equality) to promote inclusive healthcare, education, legal aid and livelihood related services for LGBTIQ+ communities in Delhi NCR.



Salma Khan is the president of Kinnar Maa Trust. Kinnar Maa is a CBO working on fundamental rights, health services, education, skill development, capacity Building, Advocacy, De-addiction and social protection of the TG and Hijra community in Mumbai and adjacent districts of Mumbai. 5000 members from our community registered with this trust over the last seven years. Ms. Khan is Mumbai 's first transwoman Lok Adalat panelist.



Yatin Game, Secretary, Mumbai District Legal Services Authority

Shri Yatin Game completed LL.M in the year 2000 and practiced in the High Court of Bombay at its Aurangabad Bench. He joined judicial service as Judicial Magistrate at Dhule, Nagpur. Mr. Game was deputed as Assistant Charity Commissioner at Satara, from 2013 to 2016. He was promoted as Senior Division at Metropolitan Magistrate, Bandra, Mumbai. Since 2017, Shri Yatin Game is deputed as Secretary District Legal Service Authority, Mumbai.