

Need to have legitimate discourses on human rights at grass roots : Afonso

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Human rights are something that we deal with on a permanent basis and we need to give it due regard said Shri Pratapsingh Rane, Leader Opposition, Goa State Assembly on the occasion of the book release of “Multidisciplinary Approaches to Human Rights: National and International Dimensions”, a book edited by Dr. Badruddin, Associate Professor in Political Science at PES’s RSN College of Arts & Science, Farmagudi. Chief guest at the function Shri Rane congratulated the editor and authors who have contributed their research articles in the book. Also present at the programme was Shri Ritesh Naik, Secretary of PES’s RSN College, Ponda and Mr. Khwaja Ayub Zickriya, General Manager - The International Centre Goa. Prof. Agnelo V. Afonso, ex-Head of Department of Philosophy, Goa University presented keynote at the function. The programme was organised and held at The International Centre Goa recently.

Prof. A. V. Afonso in his address explained, “in Goa we do have courses on human rights, but the reality is that we lack legitimate discourses on this important subject; and this needs to be done primarily at the grass root level”. He elaborated further, the apex court needs to look into moral implications before judgments are passed. He cited many instances how courts have passed orders without bearing in mind the serious consequences they may lead to. In the past, an enormous segment of people have lost their property, employment and livelihoods due to such judgments. He concluded that higher judiciary needs to give due consideration to theories and principles of ethics; and thus in turn protect the basic human rights, before sensitive important judgments are pronounced.

The programme was widely attended by human rights advocates and NGO's, also research scholars, teachers and students of political science from various colleges and Goa University.

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