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APPENDIX - I

FORMAT OF THE INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

1. Name:

2. Profession /Designation:

3. Age and educational qualifications:

4. Could you please explain the main achievements of the K.S.H.R.C?

5. Do you think that the Commission is useful to the general public?

6. Do you agree with the criticism that the K.S.H.R.C is an ineffective or impotent body?

7. It is pointed out that a good number of cases are pending in the Commission for disposal. What may be the reason for this?

8. Do you think that the K.S.H.R.C is suffering from procedural and structural weaknesses?

9. Do the narrow interpretation and limited definition given to the term "Human Rights" in "The Protection of Human Rights Act 1993 in any way limit the scope and operation of the Commission?

10. To strengthen the Commission, is it necessary to effect amendments in the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993?
11. Has the Commission submitted any recommendation to the Government of Kerala to persuade the Union Government to initiate amendments in the Act?

12. The non-availability of a retired Chief Justice to serve as Chairman of the Commission is a grave problem. Has the Commission taken any step in this regard?

13. To avoid accumulation of pending cases in the K.S.H.R.C, do you think that the augmentation of membership of the Commission from three to five as stipulated in the Act is necessary?

14. It would be very convenient for the general public that two additional Benches are constituted in Kochi and Kozhikode. Do you agree?

15. Does the K.S.H.R.C., especially its investigation wing, suffer from political and administrative pressures?

16. Do you subscribe to the opinion that the Kerala Government is neglecting many of the recommendations of the Commission?

17. It is alleged that the differences of opinion among the members of the Commission affect its smooth working. Do you agree?
18. A sizable number of petitions received by the Commission pertain to human rights violations perpetrated by the police and other interrogatory agencies? How far is it true?

19. Can you suggest remedies to curb the human rights violations committed by the agencies of the state?

20. Section 18(2) of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993 clearly lays down that the Commission has the right to approach the Supreme Court or the High Court for such directions, orders or writs as that court may deem necessary for the enforcement of the orders of the Commission after the enquiry held under the Act. Why does the Commission refrain from invoking such a provision?

21. Do you think that the notification of a Sessions Court as a Human Rights Court by the Government of Kerala to try cases arising out of human rights violations will promote human rights in each district of the state?

22. What suggestion and recommendations would you make to remedy the structural and procedural weaknesses of the Commission and make it an effective body for the protection of human rights?
APPENDIX - II

LIST OF PERSONS INTERVIEWED

1. Justice V.P. Mohan Kumar : Hon'ble Acting Chairperson, Kerala State Human Rights Commission
2. Prof. S. Varghese : Member, K.S.H.R.C.
3. Justice A. Lakshmikutty : Member, K.S.H.R.C.
4. Olina S. Thampy : Secretary to the K.S.H.R.C.
5. Justice M.M. Pareed Pillay : Former Chairperson, K.S.H.R.C.
6. Dr. S. Balaraman : Former Member, K.S.H.R.C.
7. T.K. Wilson : Former Member, K.S.H.R.C.
8. C.P. Jayachandran : Former Secretary to the K.S.H.R.C.