Dr. Randhir Kumar, Ph.D.
National President

National Human Rights and Crime Control Bureau
(Govt. Regd. 483/2017, Incorporated Under the Legislation of Govt. of India, I.T.A. – 1882)
Regd. Niti Aayog (Govt. Of India), United Nations (UNDESA)
Regd. 12A & 80G Under Income Tax Department (Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India)
Regd. CSR | Under Ministry of Corporate Affairs (Govt. of India) & M.S.M.E. (Govt. of India)
An ISO 9001:2015 Certified Non- Government Organization

(BY - EMAIL)

Ref. No: NHRCCB/0112/2026
Date: 28th November , 2026

To,
The Hon'ble Union Minister of Home Affairs,
Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India,
North Block, Central Secretariat,
New Delhi – 110001
Email:- hm@mha.gov.in

Subject: Urgent Request for a High-Level CBI Inquiry into the Alleged Custodial Torture of Journalist Abhishek Bharti, Police Action at The Bharat Mitra Office, the POCSO Case Against MLA Bhushan Bara, and the Circumstances Behind the Victim's Statement Retraction.

Respected Sir,

On behalf of the National Human Rights and Crime Control Bureau (NHRCCB)—a premier national human rights organization working tirelessly since 2017 (registered under the Indian Trusts Act and enlisted with NITI Aayog, Government of India) toward the protection of fundamental human rights, crime prevention, and the promotion of constitutional justice across India—I am writing to bring to your immediate attention a matter of grave constitutional and human rights concern in the state of Jharkhand. The matter involves the arrest and alleged custodial torture of journalist Shri Abhishek Bharti (associated with The Bharat Mitra), unwarranted police action at his news office, and serious questions surrounding a POCSO case involving a sitting Member of the Legislative Assembly.

As widely reported by credible news sources, the sequence of events raises profound concerns regarding press freedom, due process, and impartial justice:

1. Unwarranted Police Action at The Bharat Mitra Office & Custodial Torture:
Following his arrest by Simdega Police in Bistupur, Jamshedpur, on November 25, 2026, in connection with a counter-FIR (Pakartand Police Station Case No. 25/26), news reports and family statements indicate that Shri Abhishek Bharti has been

subjected to severe physical torture in police custody to coerce his statement, to the extent that he collapsed during court production. Furthermore, earlier police raids and high-handed action at The Bharat Mitra news office constitute a direct violation of constitutional protections guaranteed to the fourth estate and a blatant infringement of human rights against a working journalist.

2. Need for a High-Level Inquiry Against Sitting MLA Shri Bhushan Bara: The origin of this entire controversy lies in mid-November 2026, when a 14-year-old minor girl from Simdega leveled grave allegations of sexual assault against Congress MLA Shri Bhushan Bara at his Ranchi residence, leading to the registration of a case under the POCSO Act and the Juvenile Justice Act. Given the political stature and influence of a sitting legislator, a fair and uninfluenced investigation by the local state police remains deeply doubtful.

3. Inquiry into the Sudden Retraction of the Minor Victim's Statement: Crucially, after Shri Bharti reported the minor's initial statement on his digital platform, the victim subsequently altered her statement before a magistrate and child rights authorities, followed by a counter-FIR filed by her grandfather alleging abduction and coercion against Shri Bharti and Shri Dilip Tirkey. An independent investigation is urgently required to uncover the exact circumstances, external pressures, or intimidation that led the minor victim to change her testimony.

When a journalist reporting on a sensitive POCSO matter faces raids on his media office and alleged custodial violence, it sends a chilling message to press freedom and undermines public faith in the criminal justice system. To ensure complete transparency, accountability, and justice for both the minor victim and the journalist, an independent central agency must take over the investigation.

I therefore earnestly urge your esteemed office to:

- Order an immediate, high-level inquiry by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) into the entire chain of events, encompassing the original POCSO case against MLA Shri Bhushan Bara, Pakartand PS Case No. 25/26, the police action at The Bharat Mitra office, and the alleged custodial torture of Shri Abhishek Bharti.

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• Investigate the circumstances surrounding the minor victim's retraction, ensuring the victim and her family are placed under independent protection free from any political or administrative coercion.

• Ensure strict accountability and preservation of evidence, including all CCTV footage from the concerned police stations and transit routes, as well as independent medical examination records of Shri Abhishek Bharti, to uphold his fundamental and human rights as a press person.

I trust that your esteemed office will intervene decisively to protect the rule of law, human rights, and the independence of the press.

With Regards

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. Randhir Kumar)

Copy to (for information and immediate necessary action please):

To ,

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Jharkhand,
Chief Minister's Secretariat,
Project Building, Dhurwa,
Ranchi, Jharkhand – 834004

(Dr. Randhir Kumar)