

Amnesty report attacks India

Indian authorities were openly critical of human rights defenders in 2017, feeding a climate of hostility and violence against them, according to the latest State of the World's Human Rights report by Amnesty International.

"Repressive laws were used to stifle freedom of expression, and journalists and press freedom came under increasing attack. Several journalists and Human Rights Defenders also lost their lives. Freedom of expression in universities also remained under threat," the Amnesty report said about India.

The report pointed out that the Home Ministry said that it had refused to renew the foreign funding licence of the NGO known as People's Watch because it had allegedly portrayed India's human rights record in a "negative light" internationally.

Religious minorities across South Asia faced attacks from violent mobs while the authorities either failed to protect them, did not hold the perpetrators accountable, or even stoked a climate of hostility against them, the report said.

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