



**Public  
Concern For  
Governance  
Trust**



**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2022-2023**

# Profile

## **Profile**

Public Concern for Governance Trust (PCGT), a registered trust, founded by concerned citizens, mobilizes public opinion, increases public participation and activism towards promoting honesty, transparency and accountability in governance.

# Vision

## **Vision**

To strive for good governance, contain corruption, uphold and inculcate values and enhance Sadbhavna in the citizens.

# Board of Trustees

## **Board of Trustees**

### **Chairman**

Mr. V. P. Raja

### **Chairman Emeritus**

Mr. J. F. Ribeiro

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Mrs. Rekha Shahani

Mrs. Ana Saldanha

Mr. D. Sivanandhan

Mr. Rajesh Desai

Mrs. Abha Singh

Dr. K. Venkatesham



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## From The Chairman's Desk



During the year 2022-23, the Nation slowly came out of the COVID-19 Pandemic, thanks to a very successful Vaccination Drive undertaken throughout the country. In a historic achievement, India's cumulative COVID-19 Vaccination Drive surpassed the 200 crore doses milestone on 17th July 2022.

Along with other organizations, PCGT too opened up and reverted back to the physical mode of activities in addition to the on-line mode which we had learnt during the Pandemic lockdown years.

The North Star for PCGT is "Educating Youth to be Responsible Citizens and creating Leaders of Tomorrow". Towards achieving this mission, PCGT continued with its activities under each of its verticals, namely

- Youth For Governance (YFG)
- Kuchh Aur (KA)
- Right to Information (RTI)

Encouraged by the enthusiasm we received from the "Constitution Literacy Programme" which we had started last year, we took a new initiative this year by commencing a ten week on-line Certificate Course on Fundamentals of the Indian Constitution. This was done in association with the Pravin Gandhi College of Law (PGCL). The first batch of 26 participants



received their certificate of completion of the course. We now propose to continue with this course every year.

With a view to help students get various perspectives about matters of current interest, the following special events were organized.

- A Conclave on “Global Peace and Security” to understand the Russia-Ukraine Conflict.
- A collegium on “Same Sex Marriage”, currently with the Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court.

Our monthly “Internship Programme” is also used to help participants to widen their horizons on various matters of current debate both in India and in the world, so that they can form their own independent opinions on various matters after an informed debate.

For PCGT, the icing on the cake was the successful conduct of the Annual Event 2023, held on 8th February 2023 at the Shanmukhananda Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi Auditorium. This Annual Event was conducted after a gap of two years on the theme “Youth for Ethical Governance”. The Chief Guest Mr. Bittu Sahgal, the well known environmental activist, enthralled the audience of school and college children with his motivational speech. This event would not have been possible except for the one-pointed attention and focus of our Trustee Mrs. Rekha Shahani, notwithstanding a very difficult period she was going through in her personal life. Simply, hats off to Mrs. Rekha Shahani.

All these became possible thanks to the leadership and commitment of our Trustees and the devotion to work shown by our staff. A particular mention needs to be made on the outstanding work done by Mr. Shivam Jain Kakadia and our newly joined Programme Manager, Ms. Sayali Kadam who executed both the YFG and Kuchh Aur verticals during the year.

व्ही. पी. राजा

**V. P. Raja**  
*Chairman*



## About PCGT

PCGT was founded in 2002 by 3 distinguished bureaucrats / professionals with an aim of fostering Honesty, Transparency and Accountability in governance and work for instilling ethical values among the school children and professional conduct among the college youth, so that they become good citizens of our country. The founding Trustees were :

Late Mr. B. G. Deshmukh, IAS (Retd.), former Chief Secretary of Maharashtra State, Cabinet Secretary in the Central Government and Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister.

Mr. Julio Ribeiro, IPS (Retd.), Former Commissioner of Police, Mumbai, Director General of Police, Punjab state / Gujarat state and Indian Ambassador to Romania.

Dr. R. K. Anand, Pediatrician and Former Medical Director, Jaslok Hospital & Research Centre, Mumbai.

They subsequently inducted more Trustees with distinguished record in their respective professions and the Trustees closely monitor PCGT programs and guide the Program Managers from time to time to achieve the best results. They interact closely with the Interns and act as role models to college youth. PCGT aims at character building of the school children / college youth so that they become good citizens of our country.

PCGT also has programs to develop leadership qualities among the youth, including one month internship. PCGT in close association with NSS organizes college programs including dialogues with noted professionals / social activists to imbibe the qualities of social service in the youth. The programs with the communities, especially weaker sections of the society make them aware of the Right to Information (RTI) Act and Right to Public Service (RTS) Act and how to make their effective use to curb corruption in the public institutions. All the programs of the PCGT are ongoing and aim at covering as many school children / college youth / communities as possible.

PCGT is registered with the Charity Commissioner under Reg. No. E/20164.



## YOUTH FOR ETHICAL GOVERNANCE

PCGT Annual Event 2023 was held, after a gap of two years, at Sri Shanmukhananda Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi Auditorium on February 08, 2023. The theme of the event was 'Youth for Ethical Governance'. The Chief Guest was Mr. Bittu Sahgal, Founder of Sanctuary Nature Foundation, Editor of Sanctuary Asia, India's first and largest circulating wildlife and ecology magazine (1981) and Founder-Editor of Sanctuary Cub (1984). He believes that India's ecological foundation is the bedrock on which the nation's economic foundation sits. He also believes that climate change poses the greatest ever threat to the stability of the Indian nation.

The programme was designed to reach high school and college students. It centered on music, dance and a dialogue on current environmental issues.

The cultural part of the event started with an Invocation of 'Tera Mangal Hoyal' by students of Purshottam High School, followed by choir performances on 'Make God Your Guru' by Universal High School and 'People of the World' by Podar International School. Pragnya Bodhini High School students enacted a skit on 'Kaun Dekh Raha Hai!' to convey the message of self-correction and doing the right thing when no one is watching.





Ms. Shreya Rao enthralled the audience with her lively songs. This was followed by an energetic dance by a group of 5 young women known as 'Boundless'. The piece was titled 'Youth Wield Your Power'.



Anjuman Islam's - Dr. M.I.J Girls High School performed 'Theythaka' a popular dance form in Kerala that is often performed during the harvest festival of Onam.

The cultural phase of the event concluded with a power-packed performance by students of Sardar Vallabhai Patel Vividhalakshi Vidhyalaya (SVPVV) on 'Salaam India'.



In the second segment, PCGT's Founding Trustee Mr. Julio Ribeiro introduced the Chief Guest Mr. Bittu Sahgal. A short video on environmental protection was screened followed by Mr. Sahgal's talk on the theme of 'Youth for Ethical Governance' and Environment. He further shared the role of youth in protecting the environment. He urged the audience to bring back the wetlands, grasslands, mangroves, seagrass and kelp to maintain the balance of the ecosystem. After the talk, Mr. Sahgal answered all the questions from our young audience.



Mr. V. P. Raja felicitated Mr. Bittu Sahgal and thanked Mr. V. Shankar and the Management of Sri Shanmukhananda Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi Auditorium, and all those who contributed in making the programme a grand success. The event ended with the National Anthem.





## YOUTH FOR GOVERNANCE (YFG)

In 2012 PCGT initiated the Youth for Governance programme to provide a platform to young students who will be our future policymakers. The predominant features of the program are transparency, responsiveness, efficiency, accountability and rule of law. PCGT believes that a well-educated and engaged youth with information about good governance practices, ethical values of honesty and integrity, creates a citizen who can engage on any platform to actively get involved with the government to enhance the spirit of governance.

PCGT organizes dialogues, workshops, webinars and seminars on issues related to good governance and invites eminent speakers and role models in different fields to guide and inspire the youth. PCGT collaborated with the NSS Unit of Mumbai University for the academic year 2022- 2023. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Public Concern for Governance Trust and SVKM's Pravin Gandhi College of Law (PGCL) on July 26, 2022.

The following seminars, workshops and webinars were organized during the year :

- ❖ Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO)
- ❖ Offences and Proceedings under the POCSO Act
- ❖ Lecture series on 'Child Safety'
- ❖ Responsible Citizenship and the laws that allow you to take action on your own
- ❖ Identifying Violation of Constitutional Rights and Tools to Fight Discrimination
- ❖ Indian Parliamentary Procedure and Youth Parliaments
- ❖ Cyber Security
- ❖ Communal Harmony
- ❖ Safety of Women in Modern Times
- ❖ Quiz Competition on 'Constitution of India'.
- ❖ Street plays were performed on 'All Human Rights are Fundamental Rights'



*Dr. R. K. Anand, talking to students on Communal Harmony*

*Sr. Police Inspector Nitin Unhavane interacting with the students of V. K. Krishna Menon College on 'Safety of Women in Modern Times'*



*Street play on 'All Human Rights are Fundamental Rights' outside Bhandup Station*



*Mr. Ishaan Chitnis interacting with the NSS unit of Prahladrai Dalmia Lions College on 'Indian Parliament and Legislative Procedure'*



*Mr. V. P. Raja addressing students at St. Xaviers College on 'Youth and Nation Building'*



## INTERNSHIP

PCGT runs a month-long internship program for college students each month, mostly from colleges of Law and Social Sciences. In the year 2022-2023, 101 students with Law and Social Science backgrounds interned at PCGT both in online and offline mode. Topics that were organized by PCGT for the interns included Cyber Security, Issue of Manual Scavenging, Tribal Rights, Right to Information, Judicial Time Bound Delivery, Democracy and the Rule of Law, Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, Safety of Women in Modern Times, Leadership, PIL Drafting, Centre-State Relations: Constitutional Perspective and many more.

Interns also visited the kitchen of Mumbai Roti Bank and distributed food to the underprivileged children of the Municipal School at Pratiksha Nagar, 'Crime Against Women' Unit at Lower Parel, Mumbai Traffic Police Headquarters, Worli and attended a seminar on 'Public Liability Insurance in India' organized by Money Life Foundation.

## SEXUAL HARASSMENT (WOMEN'S SAFETY) and CYBER SAFETY WORKSHOP

PCGT organized a Rural Exposure Visit for its Campus Ambassadors (CAs). The visit was hosted by the Bombay Mothers and Children Welfare Society at Rajgurunagar, near Pune. The objective of the visit was to give exposure of rural life to the urban youth, making them aware of the realities and the way of living of the villagers. The Campus Ambassadors got to adapt and appreciate a different culture during the span of 3 days by visiting tribal hamlets. YFG Programme Manager Ms. Sayali Kadam delivered a session on Sexual Harassment (Women's Safety) and Cyber Safety at Vasantrya Manjare Vidyalaya. The CAs visited Zilla Parishad Primary School at Thakarwadi and interacted with children from grades 1 to 4. They narrated stories to the children on values such as honesty, kindness and greed as an evil.

PCGTs CAs got an opportunity to visit a tribal hamlet of Thakar tribes and observed their way of living. The visit ended with sightseeing at Chaskaman Dam.



*Ms. Sayali Kadam conducting a session at Vasanttrao Manjare Vidyalaya on Women Safety and Cyber Safety*

*PCGT Campus Ambassadors and Staff at Zilla Parishad Primary School, Thakarwadi*



*PCGT Campus Ambassadors interacting with the Staff of the Bombay Mothers and Children Welfare Society*



## LEADERSHIP PROJECTS

In furtherance to its vision and mission, PCGT launched the Campus Ambassadors Programme in July 2019 to involve young college-going students in Mumbai and Pune in projects related to good governance and hone their leadership skills. In 2022-23, 25 students were inducted as PCGT Campus Ambassadors and 4 Lead Ambassadors in their respective institutions in Mumbai for a period of 12 months i.e. from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

The Campus Ambassadors play a crucial role in promoting the vision and mission of PCGT in their respective institutions and serve as a strategic link between PCGT and their institution. Each Campus Ambassador is required to organize events for PCGT such as dialogues, workshops, conferences and seminars etc. at his/her institution.

### PCGT Conclave on Global Peace and Security

PCGT, in association with SVKM's Pravin Gandhi College of Law (PGCL), organized the second edition of the Conclave on April 9 and 10, 2022. The theme for the Conclave was "Global Peace and Security", which is also the foundational principle of the UN Charter. The Conclave was organized virtually on Zoom platform with the assistance of the Lead Ambassadors (LAs) and the Campus Ambassadors (CAs) of PCGT. The Conclave hosted around 250 attendees over the course of two days through a variety of events like Dialogue, Model UN and Open Mic, on various aspects and sub-themes arising out of Global Peace and Security - ranging from lessons from the past to its relevance in the current times.



*Mr. Gautam Mukhopadhaya  
delivering the Keynote Address at the Closing Ceremony*



*Open Mic at Bombay Portico  
during the Conclave*



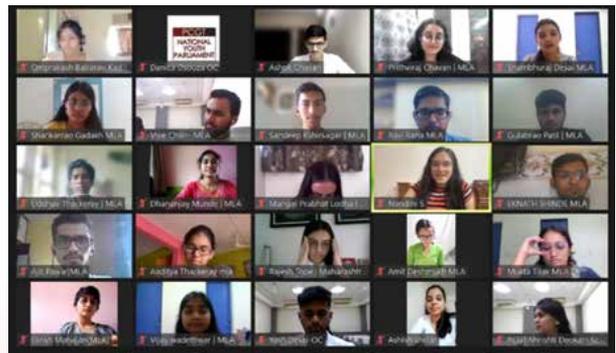
## PCGT National Youth Parliament 2022

The fourth edition of the National Youth Parliament (NYP) was organized by PCGT in association with Pravin Gandhi College of Law, Mumbai (PGCL) in online mode on July 30 and 31, 2022. Nearly 200 students from across the country participated in NYP 2022 in six mock committees, making it the largest edition so far. The theme of NYP 2022 was set as “Youth For Progressive India” and the following mock committees were simulated :

- Lok Sabha: *Deliberation on Agrarian Reforms in India*
- Rajya Sabha: *Discussion on public-private partnerships as a resolution to economic challenges in India*
- Maharashtra Legislative Assembly: *Implementation and functioning of the State Wise Climate Action Plans and subsequent State Council for Climate Change*
- All India Political Parties Meet (School Committee): *Deliberation on Police Reforms in India*
- All India Stakeholders Meet (School Committee): *Discussion on Primary and Secondary Education in India with special emphasis on the National Education Policy, 2020*
- Press (consisting of reporters in the above committees).



Hon'ble Mr. Justice G. S. Patel addressing the audience at the Closing Ceremony of NYP 2022



Group Photograph of the participants in the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly



## Certificate Course on Fundamentals of the Indian Constitution

PCGT in association with PGCL successfully organized a Certificate Course on 'Fundamentals of the Indian Constitution'. The course spanned over ten weeks, from July 3, 2022 to September 11, 2022 and consisted of 30 hours of live lectures held in online mode, followed by Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ) Test (Course Evaluation). This was the first of its kind ten weeks of online certificate course conducted as a part of PCGT's Constitutional Literacy Programme, which began in 2021 under its vertical Youth for Governance. 26 participants, including 3 Student Coordinators, received Certificate of Completion of the course.

## Colloquium on Same-Sex Marriage

Maharashtra National Law University, Mumbai (MNLU-M) in association with PCGT and Vahura, organized India's first colloquium on "*Gender Justice and Human Rights: Deciphering the Social and Legal Implications of Same-Sex Marriage in India*", on March 18, 2023 in hybrid mode, at MNLU-M campus in Powai, Mumbai. The colloquium was organized with the objective of creating an atmosphere of understanding and critical analysis of the issue, which would be imperative in creating an apt policy in alignment with the Constitution of India. It also created a forum where people would feel comfortable bringing forward issues pertaining to the LGBTQIA+, which has been a topic often ignored in public discourse. More than 50 attendees from across India joined in person or virtually.



*Address by the Chief Guest  
Sr. Adv. Saurabh Kirpal*

*Panel Discussion on Legal Implications of  
Same Sex Marriage in India*





## Panel Discussion on Judicial Pendency of Cases

An online panel discussion was jointly organized by the PCGT and National Federation of Societies for Fast Justice (NFSFJ) on the topic "Pendency of 5 Crore Cases - Is Collegium Responsible?" on January 7, 2023. The panel comprised of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kamleshwar Nath (Former Judge, Allahabad High Court), Dr. Hari Desai (Former Editor, Indian Express Group), Dr. M. R. Gosai (Advocate, Supreme Court of India), Hon'ble Mr. D. C. Verma (Retd. Judge) and Mr. Raj Kachroo (Technocrat). They discussed the constitutional jurisprudence governing the appointment of judges in India as well as the current pendency of cases across all courts in India. They suggested that filling up judicial vacancies and the use of technology and virtual courts will reduce the pendency of cases and will ensure that justice reaches the doorstep of the marginalized sections.

**Pendency of 5 Crore Cases  
Is Collegium Responsible?**

Zoom Webinar

Saturday, 7th January 2023 | 5:00 - 7:00 PM

**Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kamleshwar Nath**  
Former Judge,  
Allahabad High Court

**Dr. Hari Desai**  
Former Editor,  
Indian Express Group

**Mr. D. C. Verma**  
Retd. Judge

**Dr. M. R. Gosai**  
Advocate,  
Supreme Court of India

**Dr. Raj Kachroo**  
Technocrat

**Pravin Patel**, Hon. Trustee, Forum for Fast Justice  
Introducing the subject with background

**Ashwinbhai Karia**, Former Principal Law College  
Moderator

Jointly organized by:  
Public Concern for Governance Trust, Mumbai  
National Federation of Societies for Fast Justice, New Delhi



## KUCHH AUR

This programme of the PCGT is an extension of education beyond the school curriculum and textbooks. The idea is to inculcate values amongst our students and youth so that they become better citizens of the country. Kuchh Aur focuses on imparting value education to underprivileged children of BMC schools, private schools and aided schools in Mumbai. Our Sessions with students allow them to interact freely and understand why values are important in daily life.

For the year 2022- 2023 we conducted sessions in 9 schools and 2 communities (Rabale and Nerul). It gave us an opportunity to touch more than 1500 students through offline sessions. Some of the values that were covered :

- Acceptance
- Compassion
- Constitutional Literacy
- Consistency
- Determination
- Discipline
- Duties and Responsibilities
- Empathy
- Forgiveness
- Friendship
- Gender Equality
- Gratitude
- Happiness
- Helping Others
- Honesty
- Humanity
- Importance of Learning
- Joy of Giving
- Joy of Living
- Leadership
- Patience
- Peace
- Positive Attitude
- Punctuality
- Purpose of Life is a Life of Purpose
- Relationship
- Respect and Dignity
- Sharing is Caring
- Stress Management
- Time Management
- Unconditional Love
- Unity in Diversity
- Value of Life
- Volunteering for Self

The interns volunteered in conducting sessions at schools on values which were close to their heart. Sessions were not held during the summer vacation, Diwali and Christmas Holidays.

Teachers Training Session with the community teachers on the topic of Handling Children with Care was done at the Children of the World (India) Center where 25 teachers from Nerul and Rabale attended.



*Mrs. Asha Varma conducting a group activity with teachers at Rabale Community*



*Session on Time Management at Anjuman Islam Girl's High School*



*Students of Kudilal Govindram Seksaria Sarvodaya School*



*Mrs. Rekha Shahani with the students commemorating Kargil Day*



*Dr. Anand addressing students of Purshottam High School on the topic of Hum Sab Ek Hain*



*Kuchh Aur session at Pragnya Bodhini High School on the value of Honesty*



*Mrs. Rekha Shahani conducting a session on Purpose of Life, Life of Purpose at St. Elias High School*



## Training and Study Visit with Workshops (ETST Celebrations at Asia Plateau, Panchgani)

PCGT's staff Rashna, Rudabeh and Sayali attended the 30th Anniversary celebration of Education Today, Society Tomorrow at Asia Plateau, Panchgani, from Dec 02, 2022 to Dec 04, 2022. The programme started with sharing of the ETST Journey followed by World Cafe. Challenges, needs and opportunities of the child and educator of the future were shared. Rudabeh felt that ETST is a forward-looking programme concerned with ongoing gains and future benefits. For education to remain beneficial for learners it must prepare them not for today, but for their tomorrow. At ETST, Rashna realized that education was a passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today. For Sayali it was an enriching experience for her personal and professional growth. The greatest joy was to interact with Mr. Rajmohan Gandhi, the grandson of the 'Mahatma' and hear him speak to the Educators.



*PCGT staff with Mrs. Rekha Shahani and Dr. Rajmohan Gandhi*

*PCGT Staff with other participants of the workshop in Panchgani*



 Initiatives  
of Change

**ETST @ 30 Celebration Conference**  
Asia Plateau, Panchgani - 2nd to 4th December, 2022



## Interns Share

Initially I had no idea about the “Kuchh Aur” vertical of the internship. During my first session with Kuchh Aur I found it very strange but interesting because I never witnessed any internship programme adopting this kind of initiative. But as I held a grasp of the drive I started to enjoy the sessions. The way Kuchh Aur is operating is commendable. The basic belief of the Kuchh Aur Initiative to conduct interactive conventions to instil moral values in children to help them in evolving and developing courage, compassion and selflessness, is honourable.

I got a chance to interact with the children and I felt so blessed. The way Kuchh Aur approaches and serves these children is of noble birth. The sentiment of connecting with the less privileged, interacting with them, teaching them and learning from them fairly is what struck me. The opportunity I got from PCGT through Kuchh Aur is something I am very thankful for. The way they have been working and dedicating their heart and soul to the initiative is commendable. I feel at home whenever I attend the Kuchh Aur sessions.

- Iram Shaikh, D. Y. Patil College of Law, Nerul

As an intern at PCGT and after attending Kuchh Aur sessions in different schools, I learnt one of the essential things that will help in my future and career building. We are taught moral values in our childhood, but we forget them later in life. Those sessions taught me to reconsider the values we need to implement in life and stick to those values.

- Manish Kumar Pal – TISS



## RIGHT TO INFORMATION (RTI)

Right to Information (RTI) programme works for the essential cause of Good Governance by creating awareness about the Act. PCGT RTI Cell not only provides free legal assistance and guidance in filing RTI applications and appeals to poor sections of society but also undertakes various cases and resolves them to the best of its ability. The RTI programme creates awareness throughout Mumbai in colleges on current socio-legal issues in society and comprises of two avenues which are:

1. College Campus Awareness Workshop
2. Training of Interns

PCGT in a collaborative effort with Programme for Legal Education and Awareness (PLEA) organized a webinar on 'Drafting of RTI Application'.



*Mr. Ranga Rao interacting with young professionals and law enthusiasts regarding the drafting of the RTI application*



*Mr. Shailesh Gandhi addressing the students on Right To Information Act*



*RTI Workshop conducted by Mr. D S Ranga Rao*



## One Day Training Programme on RTI and RTS

A One-day Training Programme on Right to Information (RTI) and Right to Services (RTS) was organized by Public Concern for Governance Trust in association with SVKM's Pravin Gandhi College of Law (PGCL) on September 20, 2022, in hybrid mode. This was the fourth edition of the training programme, after the success of similar training programmes organized by PCGT in February 2020 (offline), March 2021 (online) and March 2022 (online).



*Adv. Arjun Kadam delivering a session on  
"Right to Information: Constitutional Perspective"*

## RTI Workshop

A workshop on the Right to Information Act was organized by PCGT in association with PGCL on March 10, 2023 at the Moot Court Hall, PGCL. The workshop was delivered by Mr. Shailesh Gandhi (Former Central Information Commissioner), who explained the theoretical and practical aspects of the RTI Act 2005, including drafting of RTI Applications. Around 50 students of PGCL participated in the workshop



*Mr. Gandhi explaining the  
RTI Act*



*Mr. Gandhi delivering the RTI Workshop at PGCL*

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**PUBLIC CONCERN FOR GOVERNANCE TRUST**

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