

Media Workshop at Bangalore

Karnataka was one of the states where a Bill was being drafted and we were invited by the **Department of Information, Government of Karnataka** to organise a Conference jointly with them on Right to Information. We also looked upon this as an opportunity to cover the media in the southern parts of the country and therefore we had our first Regional Workshop at Bangalore, the capital of Karnataka in April 2000.

Although the focus was on media from Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Goa and Maharashtra the Conference covered several NGOs of Karnataka, in particular those whom CHRI had been networking with since 1998. Besides, the conference was attended by judges, bureaucrats and lawyers from Karnataka.

A range of issues were discussed at this Conference. The Conference helped clarify several of the issues connected with right to information to journalists. The conference was covered well in the English as well as the local language press of the entire region. Media persons also carried follow up stories in their publications, using the conference deliberations and CHRI's material as a basis.