Annexure 1: Timeline of Human Rights

27 BC – AD 476  Roman Empire’s Natural Law: Rights of Citizens
1689  British Bill of Rights: Notion of Natural Rights of Life
1776  American Declaration of Independence
1789  French Revolution and Declaration of the Rights of Man
1833 onwards  Abolition of Slavery in Europe and the Colonies
1914 – 1919  World War I
1919  The League of Nations
1939 – 1945  World War II
1945  United Nations
1947  India’s Independence
1948  Universal Declaration of Human Rights
1950  Constitution of India

Note to Facilitator
Ask the participants how India got involved in the United Nations at such an early stage, considering it was still a part of the British Empire, and not a sovereign state. Once the participants give their answers, mention that all British colonies at that point of time, such as India, Canada and Australia, were given independent seats despite still being colonies, as a goodwill gesture.