

INTERNATIONAL SEX WORKERS' RIGHTS DAY



Sisonke



National Sex Workers Movement in South Africa



This day's history dates back to 2001, when more than 25 000 sex workers gathered in India for a festival despite efforts from prohibitionist groups who tried to prevent it taking place by pressuring the government to revoke their permit. The event was organised by Durbar Mahila Samanwaya Committee, a Calcutta-based group that has more than 50 000 sex worker members, and members of their communities.

Sex worker groups, including Sisonke and SWEAT across the globe have subsequently celebrated 3 March as an annual event, as International Sex Workers' Rights Day.