

Position Paper for the United Nations Human Rights Council [UNHRC]

Committee: United Nations Human Rights Council [UNHRC]

Country: INDIA.

Delegate: Kannikashri. P

Topic:

- i) Persecution of Journalists & Independent Media.
- ii) violation of Rights of Women & children in conflict zones.
- iii) Right to privacy in digital age.



BHARAT (India's official name)

Formal Name: Republic of India (The official, Sanskrit name for India is Bharat, the name of the legendary king in the Mahabharata. Located in South Asia, India is the seventh largest country by area. Home to a multilingual and multi-ethnic society. In 2018, its population is 135.26 crores.

In 2020 population is estimated at 1,380,004,385 people at mid year according to UN data. India population is equivalent to 17.1% of the total world population. The India's GDP is 2.72 lakh crores USD (2018).

The ruthless murders are symptomatic of a larger problem of silencing journalists. In addition to outright murders, journalists are increasingly being attacked. According to THE Hoot's "India Freedom Report : Media Freedom and Freedom of Expression in 2017" report, 11 journalists were murdered, 46 were attacked and 27 cases of police action were filed in 2017.

On International Day of the Girl child, UN sends out a message - "Empower girls": before, during and after crises.

Girls often fall through the cracks as efforts to safeguard their rights usually focus on women and the youth. But investing in adolescent girls of a region can have an outstanding ripple effect and can help forge a better world, the UN believes.

UNICEF lists examples of gender-based inequity during armed conflict to include:

- Violence against girls and Women, including rape and Sexual slavery.
- Malnutrition, when food aid neglects women's and children's special nutritional requirements.

The nine-judge bench of India's Supreme Court has just ruled that "privacy is intrinsic to freedom of life and personal liberty" guaranteed in Article 21 of the Constitution of India and qualifies as "a primal natural right". The right to privacy in India has developed through a series of decisions over the past 60 years.

"A right delayed is a right denied".

"The rights of every man are diminished when the rights of one man are threatened".

Conclusion: "This joint action is an important step as it put the government of India on notice that the UNHRC will keep a close watch on the situation in the country."

