

**74th Session of the
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Third Committee
Agenda Item 69: Report of the Human Rights Council
INDIA STATEMENT
by
Ms. Paulomi Tripathi, First Secretary**

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Mr. Chairman,

We thank the President of the Human Rights Council for his comprehensive briefing and convey our deep appreciation for the smooth and effective manner in which he has conducted the deliberations of the Council.

The strength of the Human Rights Council as the inter-governmental subsidiary body of the UN General Assembly lies in its emphasis on dialogue, cooperation, transparency and non-selectivity in the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for everyone.

Realization of the Right to Development as a distinct, inalienable human right is important in this context.

The Human Rights Council over last thirteen years has strengthened consensus on a wide range of thematic issues.

The Council also has a role in building consensus around the frontier issues such as protection of human rights in the cyberspace and impact of artificial intelligence, genetics and other emerging technologies on human rights.

Mr. Chairman,

Terrorism has emerged as one of the major threats to the full enjoyment of all human rights. The Council has to take unequivocal and resolute position against terrorism, to prevent and combat threats to human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy.

Among the various mechanisms of the Council, the Universal Periodic Review has been successful in encouraging States to recognize and address the gaps in human rights protection.

It must be strengthened by allotting sufficient time for having fruitful exchanges of views.

The Special Procedures are an important mechanisms of this Council for fostering genuine dialogue for strengthening the capacity of member states.

We need to consider that human rights issues cannot be approached in isolation, ignoring complex relationship between human rights, development, democracy and international cooperation.

It is also important that the mandate holders remain truly independent, impartial and carry out their tasks with responsibility and sensitivity in accordance with their mandates.

The selection and appointment of the mandate holders should be based on with equitable representation of different legal systems.

A more constructive approach that is sensitive to the genuine concerns and capacity constraints of countries is needed to enable them improve their ability to promote and protect human rights.

The Human Rights Council should continue to rationalize and prioritize its work to make the most efficient use of limited resources.

We also look forward to engage in the forthcoming review process of the Human Rights Treaty Bodies to strengthen their transparency and objectivity.

The longstanding issue of more equitable geographical among the OHCHR personnel needs attention.

Mr. Chairman,

India's experience demonstrates that a democratic pluralistic society with a secular polity, an impartial and independent judiciary, vibrant civil society, free media and

independent human rights institutions, help secure effective guarantees for the protection and promotion of human rights.

India's engagement with the Human Rights Council since its inception has been guided by the significance attached to consultation among States in framing the international human rights discourse and action.

We reiterate our commitment to continue to engage constructively to make the Council more effective, efficient and responsive.

I thank you.