



HAUT-COMMISSARIAT AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME • OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS  
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REFERENCE: DB/follow-up/India/65

6 December 2016

Excellency,

In my capacity as Rapporteur on Follow-up on Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), I have the honor to refer to the examination of the combined fourth and fifth periodic reports of the Republic of India, at the Committee's fifty-eight session, held in July 2014. At the end of that session, the Committee's concluding observations (CEDAW/C/IND/CO/4-5) were transmitted to your Permanent Mission. You may recall that in paragraph 48 on follow-up on the concluding observations, the Committee requested the Republic of India to provide, within two years, written information on the steps taken to implement the recommendations contained in paragraphs 11 and 13 of the concluding observations, namely:

“11. The Committee urges the State party:

(a) To implement the recommendations of the Justice Verma Committee regarding violence against women;

(e) To strengthen the efficiency of the police, to ensure that police officers fulfil their duty to protect women and girls against violence and are held accountable, to adopt standard procedures for the police in each state on gender-sensitive investigations and treatment of victims and of witnesses and to ensure that first information reports are duly filed;

(f) To establish, without delay, one-stop crisis centres providing women and girls who are victims of violence and rape with free and immediate access to medical attention, psychological counselling, legal aid, shelters and other support services;

(g) To provide systematic training on women's rights to all law enforcement personnel, medical staff and judicial officials;

(h) To put in place an effective system to monitor and evaluate the implementation, effectiveness and impact of legislation to combat sexual violence;”

His Excellency  
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Permanent Representative of the Republic of India  
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“13. The Committee calls upon the State party:

(a) To, in accordance with the recommendations of the Justice Verma Committee, promptly review the continued application of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act and related legal protocols and to enforce special powers protocols in conflict areas and assess the appropriateness of their application in those areas;

(d) To ensure that the security sector is subject to effective oversight and that accountability mechanisms, with adequate sanctions, are in place, to provide systematic training on women's rights to the military and other armed forces involved in security operations and to adopt and enforce a code of conduct for members of the armed forces to effectively guarantee respect for women's rights;

(f) To adopt an integrated policy to enhance the living conditions of women and girls who survived the Gujarat riots, including by adopting appropriate economic recovery measures, allocating below-poverty-line cards and providing other benefits under government schemes, and to step up witness protection and security measures, especially for women and girls living in relief colonies;

(g) To ensure that women in the north-eastern states participate in peace negotiations and in the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts in line with Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and the Committee's general recommendation No. 30 on women in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations;

(h) To remove restrictions on the work of human rights defenders, such as restrictions on their funding and by not placing them under surveillance.”

Although the information sought by the Committee was due in July 2016, it has not been received to date. Accordingly, I would be grateful for clarification as to the current status of your Government's response on the matters, and as to when the information requested will be forthcoming.

The Committee looks forward to pursuing the constructive dialogue it has started with the authorities of the Republic of India on the implementation of the Convention. In this context, the Committee seeks to receive your response to this reminder without further delay.

Please note that this response should be precise and should not exceed a maximum length of **4000 words**, including footnotes. You may attach a limited number of annexes containing statistical data only which are not counted for the word limit. Please also send a Word electronic version of the information requested to the Secretariat of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women by email to [cedaw@ohchr.org](mailto:cedaw@ohchr.org). For ease of reference, please find attached a document providing information on the follow-up procedure, which includes guidelines on the drafting of follow-up reports by States parties.



Accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Xiaoqiao Zou'.

Xiaoqiao Zou  
Rapporteur on follow-up  
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women