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Universal Periodic Review 13 – India

Intervention by the Netherlands

Madame/Mister President,

The Netherlands would like to thank the Honourable Mr.
for his introduction of India's national report.

The Netherlands would also like to acknowledge the continued commitment of India to improving the human rights situation of its citizens and is grateful for the answers received to its written questions on Freedom of Religion, Women's Rights and the Rights of the Child.

Madame/Mister President,

In light of this, the Netherlands would like to recommend to the Government of India the following:

With regard to Freedom of Religion and Belief

- To reconsider current local legislation on freedom of religion, that uses vague or broad terminology and discriminatory provisions, and impedes the possibility for conversion of faith for those who wish to do so.

With regard to Women's Rights

- To adopt those pending bills that are aimed at empowering women, including the Women's Reservation Bill, the amendments to Panchayati Raj Act and the Protection of Women against Sexual Harassment at the Workplace Bill.

Thank you Madame/Mister President