

14

PHILIP TISSOT  
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Field

## United Kingdom of Great Britain & Northern Ireland National Statement

### Universal Periodic Review – India

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Thank you Madam President,

The UK welcomes the Indian delegation and the steps taken since the last review, including a standing invitation to Special Procedures, and efforts to address human trafficking.

We welcome India's continued de facto moratorium on the death penalty, and call for this to be maintained. We also call on India to continue to safeguard the right of legitimate NGOs to operate without undue restriction.

The UK also welcomes India's commitment to addressing inequality in all forms, and encourages India to continue work in this area. The UK hopes that the Government can formally support the Delhi High Court's 2009 ruling to decriminalise homosexuality.

We would like to ask what has been the Indian Government's response to concerns raised by Special Rapporteurs and Treaty Bodies over domestic security legislation?

We note that India's National Human Rights Commission and civil society report a significant number of cases of torture by police and security authorities.

We recommend that India:

- 1. expedite the ratification of the CAT and its Optional Protocol, and adopt robust domestic legislation to this effect.
- 2. implement the 2011 ICC recommendations to ensure the high standards and independence of India's National Human Rights Institutions.

Thank you Madam President.