

NEW VERSION

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UPR WORKING GROUP – FOURTEENTH SESSION

(22 OCTOBER – 5 NOVEMBER, 2012)

UPR of SRI LANKA – INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE

1 NOVEMBER 2012: 1430 – 1800 hrs

INTERVENTION BY INDIA

The Government of India welcomes several encouraging developments as reported by the Government of Sri Lanka, including with regard to the resettlement of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), rehabilitation of ex-combatants, demining of land and reconstruction activities in the Northern Province. We look forward to speedy resolution of the residual issues pertaining to the resettlement and rehabilitation process.

2. India will continue to remain engaged in assisting Sri Lanka in its resettlement and rehabilitation efforts for Internally Displaced Persons in Sri Lanka and in reconstruction activity. This has helped in the process of bringing about a modicum of normalcy to these areas.

3. At the same time we recall the commitments made by Sri Lanka to the international community during the UPR 2008 and on subsequent occasions for the implementation of the 13th Amendment and building on it so as to achieve a meaningful devolution package. We urge expeditious action to take forward the political process for early political settlement.

4. We have noted the announcement by the Sri Lankan Government on holding Provincial Council elections in the Northern Province in 2013. We urge that the people of the Province should be able to exercise democratic rights as guaranteed to them by the Sri Lankan Constitution as early as feasible.

5. We look forward to the effective and timely implementation of the constructive recommendations contained in the LLRC report. These include those pertaining to early progress towards reconciliation, promotion of a trilingual policy, reduction of high security zones, return of private land by the military and phasing out of the involvement of the security forces in civilian activities in the Northern Province. We have noted the action plan

proposed by the Sri Lankan Government for time-bound implementation of these recommendations. We believe that early and visible progress in this regard will foster genuine reconciliation. We call for credible investigations to be conducted in respect of allegations of Human Rights violations and incidents involving loss of civilian life brought out in the LLRC Report.

Thank you.
