### Permanent Mission of India, Geneva

# <u>Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group</u> 24<sup>th</sup> Session (18-29 January 2016)

<u>2<sup>nd</sup> UPR of Seychelles – Interactive Dialogue</u> Monday, 25 January 2016, 09:00 am - 12:30 pm

### Statement by India

## Mr. President,

India extends a very warm welcome to the delegation of Seychelles.

### Mr. President,

- 2. We commend the new legislative initiatives and amendments undertaken by the government of Seychelles towards promotion and protection of human rights. We encourage Seychelles to further review the effectiveness of the current framework of the National Human Rights Commission.
- 3. Seychelles' efforts at elimination of judicial case backlog across the board are truly praiseworthy.
- 4. We welcome the positive measures taken by Seychelles to protect the rights and interests of children, including revamping the National Commission for Child Protection and the creation of the Police Child Protection Team in 2015. We encourage Seychelles to continue its efforts towards harmonizing domestic legislation with the provisions of the CRC.
- 5. On gender issues, while commending the fact that nearly 44% of Seychelles' parliamentarians are women, we encourage Seychelles to take a comprehensive and systematic approach to gender mainstreaming, and consider early finalization of the draft national gender policy and its action plan. We also encourage Seychelles to strengthen the Gender Secretariat within the Ministry of Community Development.