**STATEMENT BY BRUNEI DARUSSALAM**

**Review of India**

**27th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**

**Geneva, 4 May 2017**

Mr. Vice President,

Brunei Darussalam would like to warmly welcome the delegation of India, led by His Excellency Mr. Mukul Rohatgi and thanks His Excellency for the presentation.

We are pleased to note that the right to clean environment is part of an individual’s right to life as guaranteed by the Constitution of India. We are further encouraged that forest coverage in India has grown since 2011.

As home to one of the largest child population in the world, we welcome the 5% increase in the education budget in India in 2016. We also commend the successful implementation of the 2010 Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act.

In this regard, my delegation has two recommendations:

1. Continue its efforts to effectively enforce its environmental policies and further increase the growth of forest cover in the country.
2. Step up its efforts to carry out the second phase of its Education for all programmes to focus on providing affordable and quality secondary education in the country.

Lastly, Brunei Darussalam would like to extend our warm wishes to the Government of India in its continuing efforts to promote and protect the human rights of its people.

Thank you, Mr. Vice President.

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