

**Statement by India at the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group 38th Session (03-14 May 2021) : 3rd UPR of Belgium - Interactive Dialogue, delivered by Mr. S. Senthil Kumar, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of India [Geneva, 05 May 2021]**

Madam President,

India warmly welcomes and thanks the delegation of Belgium for the comprehensive presentation.

2. We commend the effective response of the Government of Belgium to address the COVID-19 pandemic and appreciate the support extended to the vulnerable groups for their access to essential health services.

3. In the spirit of cooperation, India recommends the following:

1. expedite the process of establishing a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles.
2. continue to take necessary measures in curbing structural discrimination against persons of foreign origin in the field of employment.

iii) consider developing policies related to inclusion of persons with disabilities, especially on the public employment.

4. We wish the delegation of Belgium all success in its future endeavours.

Thank you, Madam President.

\*\*\*\*\*