

**Statement by India at the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group 38th Session (03-14 May 2021) : 3rd UPR of Latvia - Interactive Dialogue, delivered by Mr. S. Senthil Kumar, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of India [Geneva, 11 May 2021]**

Madam President,

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

2. We take note with appreciation Latvia’s approach in promoting economic independence and equal opportunities for women in the employment sector. We welcome the initiatives taken by Latvia to combat hate crimes but note that such crimes and discrimination against vulnerable peoples including Roma community continue to be reported.

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

1. Continue to take necessary legislative and policy measures to prevent the use of hate speech on the internet.

ii. Work towards a more inclusive educational system especially with regard to the language of instruction in schools.

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

Thank you, Madam President.