

**Statement by India at the 38th Session of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group Meeting (3rd-14th May, 2021): 3rd UPR of Seychelles – Interactive Dialogue, delivered by Mr. Pawankumar Badhe, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of India, Geneva 10th May, 2021**

Madam President,

India warmly welcomes the delegation of Seychelles and thanks the delegation for their presentation.

2. We appreciate Seychelles for the progress made in implementing the recommendations of the previous UPR cycle as well as the efforts taken by the Government, including the recently adopted ‘Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Act, 2020’ and the ‘Domestic Violence Act, 2020’. We also welcome the enactment of the ‘Human Rights Commission Act’, which served to establish a National Human Rights Commission.

3. In the spirit of our close bilateral ties, India makes the following recommendations to Seychelles:

1. Consider taking policy-oriented measures and review existing domestic legislation to implement the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
2. Further strengthen legislative and policy measures for combatting discriminatory practices against women and girls including gender-based violence; and
3. Further strengthen the National Human Rights Commission to work in full compliance of the Paris Principles.

4. India acknowledges the challenges and constraints faced by Seychelles and remains committed to extend all possible assistance to Seychelles in this endeavor.

Thank you, Madam President.