****

**Statement by India during the Interactive Dialogue in the 4th Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of Republic of Korea in the 42nd Session of the UPR Working Group**

**(23 January-3 February 2023) delivered by Ambassador Priyanka Chauhan, Deputy Permanent Representative of India, Geneva, 26 January 2023**

**Mr. President**,

We warmly welcome the presentation by the delegation of Republic of Korea.

2. We commend Republic of Korea’s sincere efforts to promote and protect human rights since the last review in 2017. We note with appreciation decriminalization of abortion by its Constitutional Court, enactment of the Framework Act on Prevention of Violence against Women as well as adoption of the Basic Plan of Policies to Prevent Violence against Women and establishment of the National Center for the Rights of the Child.

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

i. Consider expediting amendment of the Criminal Act to decriminalize abortion and ensuring access to safe reproductive health services for women, including safe and legal abortion;

ii. Consider further measures for addressing prejudice and discrimination against foreign migrants and refugees; and,

iii. Continue with the initiatives for promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities, including women and girls with disabilities.

4. We wish the delegation of Republic of Korea success in its review.

**Thank you, Mr. President.**