

**Statement by India at the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group 31st Session (5-16 November 2018) : 3rd UPR of Mauritius – Interactive Dialogue, delivered by Ambassador Rajiv K. Chander, Permanent Representative of India [Geneva, 7 November 2018]**

Mr. Vice President,

 India warmly welcomes the delegation of Mauritius led by the Hon’ble Maneesh Gobin, Attorney General, Minister of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms. We wish the delegation a Very Happy Diwali in Geneva.

2. India commends Mauritius for the achievements made in strengthening the democratic and human rights architecture. Creation of the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms to deal with human rights issues will enhance its ability to meet its human rights obligations. We congratulate Mauritius on further improving its human rights development indices.

3. India appreciates the effective implementation of several acts and laws by Mauritius to bring about inclusive development for all. The negligible extreme poverty, extension of social security to all vulnerable groups, provision of state guarantee to universal free medical service and ensuring access to education demonstrate the high level of socio-economic progress achieved by Mauritius.

4. India applauds the steps taken by Mauritius to enhance the rights of women through amendments to the Local Government Act, the National Women’s Council Act, the Employment Rights Act and launching of Code of Corporate Governance among others. The Child Protection Act and various other instruments are important steps for ensuring rights of children. It is commendable that Mauritius has implemented several initiatives for the well being of older persons as well as empowerment of persons with disabilities.

5. In conclusion, we wish the delegation of Mauritius all success in its future endeavours.

Thank you, Mr. Vice President.