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**Statement by India at the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group 33rd Session (06-17 May 2019) : 3rd UPR of Costa Rica - Interactive Dialogue, delivered by Dr. A. Sudhakara Reddy, Counsellor (Legal), [Geneva, 13 May 2019]**

Ma’am Vice President,

We thank the delegation of Costa Rica for the presentation of its national report.

2. We welcome the National Policy for De Facto Equality between Women and Men 2018–2030 adopted by Costa Rica, aimed at implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set under the 2030 Agenda, and particularly Goal 5, to achieve gender equality and women empowerment.

3. India appreciates Costa Rica for establishing the National Council for Persons with Disabilities as lead agency to address the challenges in implementing the obligations under the CRPD. We believe this would ensure significant advancement in protecting and promoting the rights of persons with disabilities in Costa Rica.

4. We take note of the considerable progress that Costa Rica has made in the field of education for reducing school dropout and exclusion rates, and the strategies initiated for providing education tailored to the needs of the labour market.

5. My delegation **recommends** Costa Rica the following:

1. Eliminate all forms of violence against women including domestic violence and femicide.
2. Ensure application of social protection and national occupational health policy to all persons working in the informal economy.

6. We wish Costa Rica all success in its endeavours.

I thank you, Ma’am Vice President.