****

**Statement by India at the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group 34th Session (04-15 November 2019): 3rd UPR of Kazakhstan - Interactive Dialogue, delivered by Ambassador Rajiv K. Chander, Permanent Representative of India [Geneva, 07 November 2019]**

Madam vice-President

India warmly welcomes the distinguished delegation of Kazakhstan and thanks it for presenting its National Report.

2. The report provides a comprehensive overview of developments in the human rights situation in Kazakhstan including follow-up action on recommendations in the second review.

3. India welcomes the constitutional reforms of 2017 to redistribute powers amongst the branches of government and making the Parliament and the Government more directly responsible to the citizens.

4. India also welcomes the National Plan 2019, which, inter alia, aims to strengthen the legislative framework for promotion and protection of socio-economic rights of citizens.

5. India recommends the following to Kazakhstan:

1. Continue to strengthen the legislative framework and policies on gender equality especially in context of women’s access to economic, social and cultural rights.
2. Consolidate the progress made towards reaching the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and in the improvement of human development indicators**.**

We wish Kazakhstan a successful review.

I thank you madam vice-President.