

**Statement by India at the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Working Group 35th Session (20-31 January 2020) : 3rd UPR of Kiribati** **- Interactive Dialogue, delivered by Mr. S. Senthil Kumar, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of India [Geneva, 28 January 2020]**

Mr. Vice-President,

India warmly welcomes the delegation of Kiribati. We appreciate the various public policies and plans implemented by Kiribati in the follow-up to the last UPR recommendations.

2. As a nation of low-lying islands, climate change and the resultant sea-level rise poses greater challenge to Kiribati. In this regard, we laud the measures being taken on mitigating climate change and adaptation plans, including in initiating a ‘coalition of nations’ most vulnerable to climate change.

3. In the constructive spirit, India offer the following recommendations to Kiribati:

(a) consider becoming Party to the International Covenant on the Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) and the International Covenant on the Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR).

(b) continue taking measures for effective promotion of gender equality and elimination of discrimination against women.

(c) continue taking efforts to secure support and assistance from the international community in pursuing climate change adaptation and mitigation plans.

4. We wish the delegation of Kiribati, all success, in its review.

Thank you, Mr. Vice-President.