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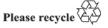
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Human Rights Council Fifty-second session 27 February–31 March 2023 Agenda item 3 Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Written statement* submitted by Global Welfare Association, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[3 February 2023]





^{*} Issued as received, in the language of submission only.

Torture and Human Rights in India

Our organization wants to bring council attention towards India where custodial torture is common act to use and India does not have any comprehensive law on torture. Every day, an average of eight people die in custody in India, with some of them succumbing to torture in police or judicial custody. 2022 was no better in India as a total of 4,484 deaths were reported in police custody in last two years in India. And yet, there has not been a single conviction in the deaths due to torture in police custody between 2005 and 2022.

No one is above the law, but in North East India, the state police has been given a free hand by the government. A lot of Custodial torture incidents are reported in North East India. On 16 August 2022, a Naga youth named Henveih Phom from Anaki-C Village of Mokokchung district died due to alleged custodial torture by police after he was arrested by Sivasagar police from Anaki Village in Nagaland. On 21 May 2020, Safikul Islam, a poor fish trader from the Salnabari area of Noagaon district in central Assam died due to alleged custodial torture by police. India has signed the UN Convention against torture and other cruel, Inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, but not ratified the same into domestic law. There was an attempt to ratify this Convention in 2010 by way of the prevention of Torture Bill, 2010, but this Bill lapsed on account of the parliament being dissolved and since then the Indian government has not made any progress regarding this issue. We urge this council to ask Indian government to stop custodial torture and also ratified UN Convention on torture.