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**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Written statement* submitted by Human Is Right, 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.

[22 May 2023]

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



Discrimination Against Women in India

Discrimination fundamentally undermines human dignity. It damages the full spectrum of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the women today which amount to millions in India. This violation of human rights, which is intensified by stigma, is not restricted to one region or one religious community in India. Caste-based and similar forms of discrimination with women is a serious concern in India. In India, apart from women, historically oppressed communities such as Dalits and Adivasis, along with religious minorities such as Muslims, also continue to face discrimination in accessing jobs, livelihoods, and agricultural credits, said the latest India discrimination report. Indian women from stigmatized castes suffer the double assault of caste-based and gender-based discrimination. These can be further compounded by discrimination based on their occupation and other socio-economic factors. Activists working at the intersections of gender and caste have long called for action to address the endemic sex and caste discrimination and violence faced by Dalit women, but India is failing to protect Dalit women and girls from discrimination. The National Crimes Records Bureau (NCRB) data for 2023 shows that 47 Dalit women and girls face discrimination every day across the country. Discrimination in India causes 100 per cent of employment inequality faced by women in rural areas in the labour market and 78 per cent in urban areas, according to Oxfam India report. Many organizations want to highlight that women in India, despite their same educational qualifications and work experience, face discrimination as compared to men in the market due to societal and employers' prejudices. The lower wages for salaried women are due to 67 percent of discrimination and 33 percent due to lack of education and work experience. We urge this council to ask Indian government to actively enforce effective measures for the protection and right to equal wages and work for all women especially Dalits and other scheduled caste women.
