



# General Assembly

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## Human Rights Council

### Fifty-fourth session

11 September–13 October 2023

Agenda item 4

### Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

## **Written statement\* submitted by Integrated Youth Empowerment - Common Initiative Group (I.Y.E. – C.I.G.), 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 August 2023]

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



## **Violation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in India**

Persons with disabilities face discrimination and barriers that restrict them from participating in society on equal basis with others every day. They are commonly denied their rights to be included in the general school system and the workplace, to live independently in the community, to vote, to participate in sport and cultural activities, to enjoy social protection, to access justice, to choose medical treatment and to enter freely into legal commitments such as buying and selling property. My organization wants to bring council attention towards India where out of the 121 Crore population, 2.68 Crore persons are 'disabled' which is 2.21% of the total population, where they experience a range of barriers to education, health care and other basic services. In India, they are subjected to violence and discrimination and people with disabilities are also often deprived of their right to live independently, as many are locked up in institutions, shackled, or cycled through the criminal justice system. Many of these human rights abuses are a result of entrenched stigma and a lack of community-based services essential to ensuring their rights, including under the UN Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The number of disabled persons in higher education in India has dropped to 25% from 2021-22 to 2022-23. Disabled university students are being ragged, harassed across campuses around the country. Last year in October, Amit Kapuri, partially visually impaired, was verbally abused, mocked for his disability and made to do difficult tasks in Jadavpur University in Kolkata. Sexual harassment and rape with disabled women are very common in India. 1.18 Crore, disabled woman in India are falling victim to sexual violence at a rate twice to four times higher than any other women. The issues faced by these women remain invisible to the world, as they remain largely ignored or intentionally sidelined due to the lack of empathy. The feminist and other women movements too have not taken the suffering of disabled women in their ambit. On the one hand, the common people in India are abuses with disabled persons and the other hand security persons are also abused disabled persons. On 30 July 2023, a video was shared on Twitter in which in Uttar Pradesh's Deoria district was allegedly beaten, slapped and abused a disabled person named Divyaang by cops on duty while he was on the tricycle. Many such acts happen but don't even come to light. My organization urge this council to ask Indian government to stop violation against disabled persons and ensure to provide their basic rights.

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