

Developing Citizen's Action Plan Towards Deepening Democracy, Disarming, Investing in Women's Rights, and Ensuring Diversity in India

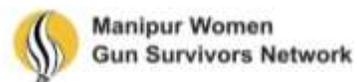
Conference followed by Exhibition
Weaving Peace Together

Display of Hand crafted items & arts made by women survivors from conflict in
Manipur & Northeast India and Film Screening on Women, War & Peace



Peace 12 day Campaign from
International day of Peace
to International Day of Non Violence
to Non-violence

22 September 2016



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“The half of humanity that have never borne arms is today ready to struggle to make the brotherhood of man a reality. Perhaps the universal sisterhood is necessary before the universal brotherhood is possible.”

-Bertha von Suttner

Introduction

India is a land of diversity consisting of 29 States and 7 Union Territories. "Unity in Diversity" is the spirit and strength of India that binds people together as one. The Constitution of India further enforces the diverse components what help India constitute its diverse components into one functional reality with its principles of human rights, federalism and separation of powers. On 21st December 1965, the United Nations International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial discrimination (ICERD) was adopted. India signed and ratified the convention to reiterate and reinforce a world without any kind of discrimination.

On another spectrum we also have the issue of rising rape and sexual violence of women and children happening in India. Every 22 minutes a woman in India is raped and there are 100,000 pending rape cases in the country. The issue of rape in conflict zones is a topic which hardly finds discussion. The Constitution of India provides for equality of all citizens and inclusive of all sexes and gender. Internationally, on 19 June 2008, the United Nations Security Council Resolution adopted a landmark Resolution No 1820 which condemns the use of sexual violence as a tool of war, and declared that “rape and other forms of sexual violence can constitute war crimes, crimes against humanity or a constitutive act with respect to genocide”.

On the other hand, India has become the world’s fourth largest spender on defense, following a 13.1% increase in its 2016-17 defense budget. India’s rise in the rankings from sixth position last year is a result of an increase in expenditure to \$50.7 billion. At the same time, India continues to hold its position as the world’s largest importer of weapons and military equipment over the last five years, followed by Saudi Arabia, China, the United Arab Emirates and Australia. India's imports, accounting for 14 per cent of global arms imports, were three times greater than those of China and Pakistan. This is to say that 17.24% of the recent budget has been spent in defense expenditure and 0.88% is allocated to women and child development.¹ These figures clearly speak for themselves as to where the country’s priority is placed. The question that needs to be asked here is that why is military security of the country more important than the wellbeing and safety of 48% of its total population.

¹Bansal, S. (2016, March 1st, Tuesday). Budget 2016: Where the money comes from and where it goes. The Hindu.

India stands at 108 position out of 145 countries in the Global Gender Gap Index in 2015. It still has 51.90% of females from the age group of 15-29 in rural India and 52.40% in Urban India dropping out of schools to attend domestic chores. Female infant mortality rate is at 44.9 deaths per 1000 live births in India. India has the largest number of unwanted pregnancies in the world at 17.1%. WHO sited that this is mainly due to unawareness and taboo of modern contraceptives. Approximately 67% of the world's 875 million illiterate adults are women. There are 12.5% women legislators in the current cabinet in India. There has been only one woman Prime Minister and only one woman President in 70 years of the country's existence. A country that recently thrives on the motto of economic development has conveniently ignored its female workforce.

Percentage of women workforce in Indian economy has decreased from 35% to 25%. This is to say, most of the female population of the country does not contribute to the country's income. As per the recent 2016 Budget Rupees 1000 crore have been allocated to the Nirbhaya fund. However, there is nothing on skill development and zero infrastructures have been provided for increasing women participation is provided. At the same time researches suggest that India's GDP would increase by a 60% i.e. the total GDP of China and USA at present combined by 2025 if the gender gap is bridged.

At the backdrop of Prepcom to World Congress on Military and Social Spending and United Nations Commemoration from Peace to Non-Violence Fortnight. Manipur Women Gun Survivors Network and Control Arms Foundation of India in collaboration with United Nations Information Centre, Delhi hosted successfully a round table conference on "Developing Citizen's Action Plan Towards Deepening Democracy, Disarming, Investing in Women's Rights and Ensuring Diversity in India" on 22nd September 2016, at the United Nations in New Delhi. Following is the report for the same.

Speeches:

Binalakshmi Nepram, Founder, Manipur Women Gun Survivors Network and Secretary



General of Control Arms Foundation of India: drew on her extensive experience and pointed out that every 22 minutes a woman is raped. The situation of women is deteriorating. Budget for women and child development was reduced to half. She reiterated the need to ensure money of a nation is spent in peace rather than war. She further said that we are at 69 years of India's Independence but we still are at 108 of gender index. How to reach the sustainable development Index to bridge the gap. There is no dearth of resources we need to ask how to use the resources appropriately.

Mr Rajiv Chandran, National Information Officer, United Nations Information Centre: stated that this 12 day campaign that the Information Centre has been organizing is an opportunity to look at a different continuum of peace, development and human rights. It is the weaving of different institutions of democracy that leads to strengthening of peace. Presenting the UN Secretary General Ban-ki Moon's address he said that peace is much more about keeping aside arms. There is a need to protect this planet and only



by working together the ethos of Sustainable Development Goals can be achieved.

Mr. Johann Hesse, Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to India: talked about conflict and women's rights and told how EU after World War II came into existence as a peace project. He also spoke on the existence of racial discrimination, caste discrimination, and natural resources. He stated that human rights are one of the core areas of EU and EU is committed to Sustainable Development Goals to move forward.



Prof. Muchkund Dubey, President of Council for Social Development, Former Ambassador and Former Indian Foreign Secretary: speaking at the panel discussion at United Nation Information Centre said the cult of arms spread due to their fluidity and called the process to an end. He also emphasized that basic needs can be fulfilled if government reaches the level of fundamental rights. Education is a fundamental right to life yet 2000 schools have been closed in India.

Further he said that the budget expenditure should be in the favor of the population. There may be a justification to meet the external threat but no justification for the country to arm itself against its own people.



Mr. Sanjiv Nair, Director, Northeast Center for Technology Application & Reach (NECTAR): drew on his vast experience and told about the government initiatives for upgrading that the government of India is trying to increase the income level of Northeast people by using technology and looms. He further mentioned that government of India has constructed more than 12,000 schools there in Chhattisgarh. Peace is going to come from education and economic stability in Northeast India.



Dr. Krishna Menon, Professor, Gender Studies, Ambedkar University: According to Menon, Academia is important because it instils in us self doubt not paralysing creeping self doubt which prevents us from any action. She spoke on the topic of the conference, dividing it in a 3D model. She elaborated the 3D model of: Democracy, Disarming, and Diversity. According to her, the two ways of looking at democracy are: formal democracy and substantive democracy. Substantive democracy is very important. We have to learn democratic behaviour, attitude from childhood. She believes that to deepen democracy great work is needed in family arrangement, universities, media, political institution etc. For her, democracy cannot be limited to Indian parliament and panchayat. She also talked about disarming in which she explained that the government have to realise that militarisation, armament, is fundamentally not suitable with a democratic vision. She also discussed diversity, in which she explained that diversity, divorced from power and inequality serves no purpose. Unless we acknowledge that diversity has a real social, political and economic consequence which are unequal and that is why diversity is important and partner in our discourse on democracy. She also explained that, from feminist perspectives nation-states and peace are difficult partner. Feminist politics is extremely uncomfortable with hierarchy and power.



Mr Ravinder Pal Singh, Peace and Security Analyst: According to him, the expenditure of the state in internal security at the behest of domestic development and domestic security should be open for public interrogation and scientific examination. He also emphasized on establishing a strategy to ensure the



rise of marginalised sections to bring a balance between the competing requirements and also to bring a method of public accountability, gender justice or economic oppournity through which expenditure on military can be reduce (hypothesis of Mr Singh). He also suggested a comparison study on disturbed district in Kashmir and Northeast and then developed a policy.

Mr Jawed Alam Khan, Senior Research Officer, Centre for Budget and Government Accountability (CBGA):

He explained the work of Centre for Budget and Government accountability (CBGA). It mainly works on budget analysis and also analyses from different lenses and perspectives. He explained that budget analysis is used as a tool of accountability to improve the responsibility and also the governance but also as an instrument of social justice and development. He also talked about Mid Day Meal where he explained that India spent 5 Rs per child. According to him government is inclined to privatization. He also suggested that as a civil society organisation we should try to engage ourselves with the government in the process of budget formation.



Ms Kanika Kaul, Senior Programme Officer, head of Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB), Centre for Budget and Government Accountability (CBGA):



She mainly focused on mechanisms in place for women in budget and also issues of violence against women. She explained that since 2015-16, union government expenditure for a number of social sector programmes (including MWCD) has reduced on account of enhanced devolution of union taxes to states as recommended by Fourteenth Finance Commission and also the reduction in expenditure is not being compensated in a number of states. Some of the concerns she mentioned regarding the implementation of these schemes are:

low budgetary outlays, low coverage and poor quality of services, non operationalisation of schemes and weak accountability mechanisms. At the last she mentions some of the key things like: priority for women in both the Union and State budgets needs to be stepped up, norms pertaining to coverage and quality of schemes should be established, accountability mechanisms need to be strengthened and make information on the programme's physical and financial progress available in the public domain to enhance transparency in these programmes.

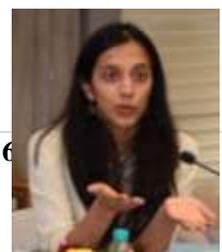
Dr. Siddharth Tripathi, Assistant Professor, Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi University:



He talked about the need for women in peace processes. He said the first international instrument for women came about as late as 1995. It was after Bosnia and Herzegovina where rape was considered a war crime. What constitutes as violence against women and girls in armed conflict. He said, Conflict and insecurity affect women, men, boys and girls differently and this shapes the dynamics of every conflict. Conflict also disrupts the social interactions of everyday life, changing the roles men and women play

and how they relate to each other in society. Women and men experience conflict differently and therefore understand peace differently. He further added that India has not yet ratified UNSCR 1325 which is against its fulfilment of signing an international law such that of CEDAW.

Sanhita Ambast, International Legal Advisor, S Asia, International Commission of Jurists:



Talked about the international legal mechanisms in terms of disarmament, democracy, women's rights and diversity. She spoke about the normative framework and India's obligations to the international laws. The norms are

an important commitment of the state. It is an advocacy opportunity. India has ratified and is signatory of several of international concerns being contested here. It includes CERD, UNSCR 1325, UN Resolution on 1820 and CEDAW.

A lot of international norms ask the state to make budgetary allocations to ensure that violence against women is mitigated. The non-fulfillment of One Stop Crises Centre is a non-implementation of an international commitment made by the state. Democracy; 1325 where women have right to participate in peace process decision making process. Women have a right to participate is not limited to right to political participation but participation in the law making process that concerns them. The process to stop conflict needs to be done in a democratic way. Decision making is engagement with every part of governance.

Anju Talukdar, Director, MARG: To what extent the law has been able to check gender based violence. At the outset, there are many areas where the laws cannot do anything. The law cannot make men respect women but it can change criminal behavior. For the law to be effective the provisions have to be comprehensive. In terms of Racial Discrimination we have ratified CERD but we don't have any national law, except the Constitutional mandate of some essential human Rights.



Although it is always better to have a comprehensive law to bridge the gap in the sense of racial discrimination in India. Available laws can be used to deal with racial discrimination. In terms of Gender Based Violence, laws have become more comprehensive after Nirbhaya rape case, for instance the definition of rape has changed. The laws seem alright, the problem is with the implementation. The problem is with conviction which is 25-30% which has also dropped since the 70%. However, there is an increase in the number of FIR. It could mean that women are reporting the case or there has been an increase in the number of cases.

In terms of compensation different states have different laws. Compensation is given in the case of rape by strangers where as 95% of the cases happen by someone known to the victim. It is not the fault of the officials it is also the responsibility of the society. Witnesses aren't usually officials, they cannot be apathetic. In terms of racial discrimination, need to advocate for a new laws. For gender based violence, the law is more or less alright, officials need training, sensitization. The society also needs to be trained and sensitized.

Tanvir Ahmed, M.Phil Student at Centre for European and Latin American Studies, Jamia



Millia Islamia: Spoke on Bezbaruah Committee report. He started his discussion by talking about racial discrimination as understood by United Nations. He said that India has ratified it but it is far from the reality. In the Indian Constitution which talks about Article 14, 15 and 21 which provide equality, liberty Bezbaruah Committee included the insecurity among people migrating from Northeast to metropolitan cities such as Delhi. He shared his personal experience where finding an accommodation being a northeastern and a Muslim was extremely difficult with constant interrogation on my character.

Dr. Lianboi, Assistant Professor, Indraprastha College, Delhi University: Northeast is an



amalgamation of different cultures, ethnicities and language which can sometimes result in conflict. The major component of diversity is cultures. A lot of times, a country which has prided on diversity, talked

of culture competence model, which is a model for respecting ones cultural diversity. We should come out of the typical idea of the nation state where the emphasis on the center and northeast is just a part. World is a continuum. Within northeast there are differences which are difficult to grapple with. Northeast is a gendered society which is reflected in the conflict. There are several international mechanism to curtail these gender based crimes, to combat the gendered reality of the conflict. It is the problem of power and negotiation. What is important is to reconcile and bring out women voices. Northeast is also the space where women are not given political space even in a matrilineal society such as the Meghalaya. This is where empowerment of women becomes a must. Let us learn to weave together just like the threads that a woman weaves bringing in all the cultures together.

Dr. Kaushikee, Associate Prof. Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace & Conflict Resolution, Jamia Millia Islamia:

She talked about a module in terms of diversity curriculum in schools. One needs to start from the self. She said that education must help discover who you are to identify others. Prejudices and stereotypes end up dehumanizing another person, in such a case it is very easy to commit violence. What goes into making biases much ne part of such a module. The idea is to change behaviors. As of now democracy is the best module for mitigation, reconciliation in a conflict situation. People’s participation is the core of making democracy work. Sensitization and education of such rights of participation is a must for deepening democracy. Hence a culture of dialogue is a must instead of a culture of conflict. One must also goback to the constitutional values to bring about change. It is perhaps a god starting point especially at a policy level.



Based on discussion at a round table, the conference participants made the following recommendations for a Citizen’s Action Plan (CAP), as follows:

- Return to Gandhian principles of truth and non-violence by forging social transformation at the socio-economic-cultural and political level to achieve the objectives of unilateral disarmament
- Strategies including Preventive and peaceful solutions for all conflict situations
- Priority for all forms of gender in both the Union and State budgets needs to be stepped up through Gender Sensitive Budgeting
- Focus on a culture of dialogue than on a culture of violence
- Constitutional values and Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a basis for deepening democracy, Ensuring diversity and women’s rights in India
- India must have a National Diversity Policy
- Recognition of women role in peace processes and ensuring the participation of women as decision makers in peace negotiations and present and post conflict reconstructions by both the Central and State Governments



A poster on “War on Rape” was launched at the conference

Background

Domestic violence, rape and dowry-related violence are sources of gender violence according to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) 2014 annual report. 28194 rape cases and 6430 dowry death cases were reported in 2014 according to NCRB provisional data again an indicator of rape registering an 873% jump. Other sources of gender violence include those that are dowry-related and honor killings. In three generations of India, more than 50 million women have been exterminated from the population as per 2014 census data. India census of 2011 also shows that 18 million girls were exterminated from the population before the age of 15 years, while 4 million died prematurely due to neglect, 3.3% of women face non-partner sexual violence and 66% of women experienced sexual harassment in New Delhi 2010 (India).

Speaking about social and cultural inequality, the momentous Justice Verma Committee Report, in context of sexual violence in conflict areas, especially in the regions where Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) had recommended that the requirement of sanction for prosecution of armed forces personnel should be specifically excluded when a sexual offence is alleged. Complainants of sexual violence must be afforded witness protection. Special commissioners should be appointed in conflict areas to monitor and prosecute for sexual offences. Training of armed personnel should be reoriented to emphasise strict observance of orders in this regard by armed personnel. However in the 2013 Criminal Law Amendment Act this recommendation against AFSPA was conveniently ignored.

The UN Committee on Elimination of Discrimination against Women has emphasised the need for increased investments for the MWCD and for gender budgets across Ministries. India adopted ‘gender-responsive budgeting’ (GRB) in 2005. In the recent budget allocation, the gender budget section is divided into two parts. Part A details schemes in which 100% provision is for women, Part B reflects schemes where the allocations for women constitute at least 30% of the provision. There is an 11.5% increase from Part A and 2.5% increase in Part B from the previous budget. However, the total allocation

specifically for women welfare is yet not clear. The initiative of One Stop Rape Crises Cell was although started by Government of India but overall only 18 such centers have been passed all over the country. Centers even in the capital, New Delhi are non-functional and unable to respond to the epidemic of rape that has engulfed this country. Unity in Diversity is a universal motto for independent India. Yet in practice, there are a series of discrimination based on race, caste, gender, religion practiced in the country. There is therefore an urgent need to establish a diversity policy in the country to address the issue of discrimination.

As a democratic country India, does guarantee constitutional rights to all its citizens. The state has however, failed in stigmatizing and ensuring effective punitive action against the instruments of the state and non-state actors indulging in sexual violence in disturbed areas, effective gender budgeting and ensuring welfare policies in the socio, cultural, economic and political realm for women and other disadvantaged communities. As a consequence, India, when engaged in domestic conflicts and incapability to provide basic safeguards to its society fails to inspire legitimacy or public support for its actions amongst the host societies. Unless a democratic state like India develops legislative provisions, capacities and effective responses against sexual crimes and discrimination the security sector's claims of pacification of disturbed areas remain an exercise in self-deception.

There is a need to make people in India understand the issue of spending wisely and not for conflicts, wars, violence. Also equally needed to understand the political economy of violence, the militarization of societies that has come about and issues of arms, drug, women trafficking, HIV AIDS, displacement etc that have emerged in the country and the larger questions of patriarchy in the whole process. The issue of violence against women, lack of women in decision making bodies, reasons to why women are underrepresented in states legislative assemblies and in the Lok and RajyaSabhas will also fall under this attempt to understanding and finding ways of building our collective sustainable peace.

A Weaponized India

India with a 1.34 billion population (17.5% of total world's population), has 20.6% share of world's poorest in 2014. India has been placed at 130th position in the 2015 Human Development Index (HDI) among the 188 countries.²On the other hand, it is poised to become one of the four largest military powers in the world by the end of the decade. At about 7,695 troops, India is currently the second largest contributor among all UN troop contributors.³The country has emerged as the largest importer of arms with a 12% share of world arms imports. India accounts for 40 million of the 75 million privately owned firearms currently in circulation, and ranks only second after the United States in a

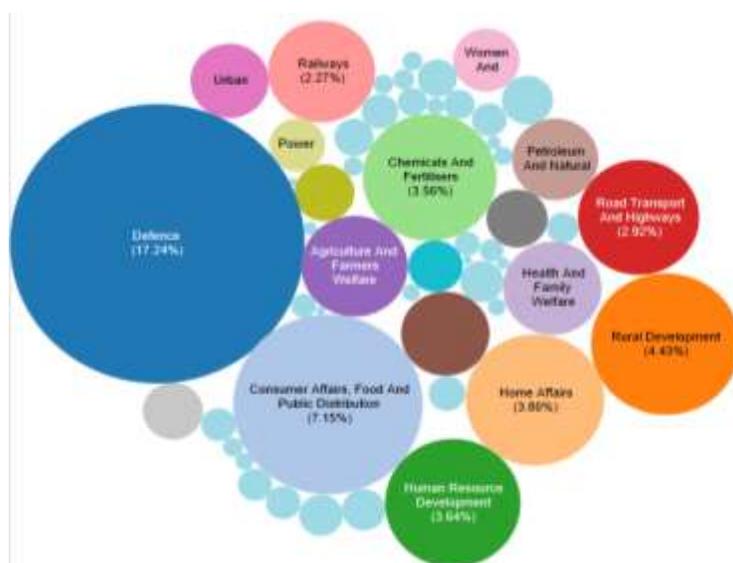
²<http://currentaffairs.gktoday.in/india-ranks-130th-2015-human-development-index-undp-12201528950.html>

³<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/UN-owes-India-62-million-for-peacekeeping-contribution/articleshow/52124934.cms>

comparison of the number of privately owned guns in 178 countries. Of these, 33.7 million are unlawfully held guns, with only 6.3 million reported to be registered. India accounted for 15 per cent of the volume of global arms imports in the last five years, more than three times as much as China, according to new data on international arms transfers published by Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). Comparison between SIPRI data for the five-year periods 2005-2009 and 2010-2014 shows Indian arms imports rising by 140 per cent.

India is also affected by internal conflicts. According to the Government of India, as of July 2011, 83 districts (this figure includes a proposed addition of 20 districts) across 10 states are affected by left-wing extremism, Naxalism, in what is infamously called as the Red Corridor. Deaths due to conflict related violence in Jammu & Kashmir are put at 80,000 while 50,000 deaths are accounted for in the Northeast region.

Union Budget Proposal, 2016-2017- Expenditure⁴



How companies are profiting from War/Armed Conflicts

Militarised conflict is one of the chief causes of poverty. Whether conflict is rooted in political strife or fuelled by greed for resources, it is civilians and local communities who suffer, and big business which profits.

Despite the decline in military spending, the business of war remains a good one. The 100 largest arms producers and military services contractors recorded \$395 billion in arms sales in 2012. Lockheed Martin, the largest arms seller, alone accounted for \$36 billion in such sales during 2012. Based on figures compiled by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), 24/7 Wall St. examined the 10 companies profiting most from war.

⁴<http://www.thehindu.com/business/budget/budget-2016-where-the-money-comes-from-and-where-it-goes/article8297149.ece>

Latest on Arms Manufacturing in India⁵

India has once again emerged as the world's largest importer of arms, with Russia being the top supplier garnering 70 per cent of the Indian market. India's imports, accounting for 14 per cent of global arms imports, were three times greater than those of China and Pakistan in the period 2011-15.

Between January 2001 and February 2016, the Government of India has granted 333 industrial licences to private firms for defense manufacturing, according to data on the department of industrial policy and promotion (DIPP) website. They include Micronel Global Engineers Pvt. Ltd, Marine Electrical (I) Pvt. Ltd, Defsys Solutions Pvt. Ltd, Naistoco India Pvt. Ltd, Comint Systems and Solutions Pvt. Ltd, Ananth Technologies Ltd, DCX Cable Assemblies Pvt. Ltd and OIS Advanced Technology Pvt. Ltd.

There are more familiar names too: Tebma Shipyards Ltd, Premier Explosives Ltd, Titagarh Wagons Ltd, Taneja Aerospace and Aviation Ltd, Punj Lloyd Aviation Ltd, Dynamatic Technologies Ltd, Bharati Shipyard Ltd, Ashok Leyland Defense Systems Ltd and AMW Motors Ltd.

And then there are big, established groups such as Bharat Forge Ltd (BFL), Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL), Tata group, Larsen and Toubro Ltd (L&T), Godrej Group and the Mahindra Group.

These companies would be used as joint venture partners with foreign manufacturers looking at the 'Make in India' initiative. It is also looking to export defense products from India.

Reliance Defense Limited also wants to go beyond ship building and helicopter manufacturing, and has applied for at least 13 new licences to develop and produce military systems, with the hope for clearances by the end of this year.

Envisioning a Genderjust Future for India

17. 24% of the recent budget has been spent in defense expenditure and 0.88% is allocated to women and child development.⁶ These figures clearly speak for themselves as to where the country's priority is placed. The question that needs to be asked here is that why is military security of the country more important than the wellbeing and safety of 48% of its total population. India adopted 'gender-responsive budgeting' (GRB) in 2005. In the recent budget allocation, the gender budget section is divided into two parts. Part A details schemes in which 100% provision is for women, Part B reflects schemes where the allocations for women constitute at least 30% of the provision. There is an

⁵<http://www.livemint.com/Industry/9bLrUF2aBV4cFI6Mhu6C4J/Private-defence-firms-keen-on-Make-in-India.html>

⁶Bansal, S. (2016, March 1st, Tuesday). Budget 2016: Where the money comes from and where it goes. The Hindu.

11.5% increase from Part A and 2.5% increase in Part B from the previous budget. However, the total allocation specifically for women welfare is yet not clear. The initiative of One Stop Rape Crises Cell was although started by Government of India but overall only 18 such centers have been passed all over the country.

Given these stark contrasts in the Indian society's socio-cultural and economical structure the way forward has to question the perspective on what ensues the countries national security. Is it simply protection of its sovereignty from outsiders and dissents. Or does it also comprise of protection of its citizens from the socio-economic and cultural evils that have plagued the society. If the answer is latter, then it should also include an all round development of its citizens which cannot happen if most of the resources are devoted to militarization, no matter how necessary it might seem in today's world. An urgent gender based perspective is also pertinent which seeks to enhance equality of all its people, an ethos envisioned in the Constitution but seldom practiced. The nation needs to embrace the diversity of its people and work to preserving this diversity by protecting and promoting the rights of its most vulnerable sections.

Budget 2016-17: Through the Gender Lens⁷

After more than a decade of Gender Budgeting at the national level, 48 percent of India's population—its women, are still discriminated against, not solely because of their gender but also due to its intersection with caste, class and religion-based discrimination. It is therefore imperative to evaluate and understand the latest union budget on the basis of its impact on women.

The total magnitude of the GBS remains at 4.5% of the total budget, seeing no change from the previous budget. The increase in the BE 2016-17 over the RE 2015-16 was recorded at Rs 9375.64 crore or 11.5%. What is worrisome however, is that the total allocation under Part A remains hardly unchanged at Rs 17412.01 crore, marginally up from the previous budget's total of Rs 16,657.11 (which was reduced to Rs 11388.41 crore in the revised estimate). The budgetary allocation to the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) has also decreased in real terms. 'Gender Budgeting' in itself, as a scheme under the MWCD received Rs 2 crore, unchanged from the previous budget.

Budget for Education

During the financial Year 2015-2016 the central government of India has allocated 43,554crores for the Department of School Education and Literacy which is the main department dealing with primary education in India. With this allocation, major share of Rs. 22500 crores is for the flagship program SarvaSikshaAbhiyan. However budgetary allocation of Rs.22500 crores is considered very low. So expanse on defense system in 2016 would be 340,922crores rupees whereas education expanse is only 22500 crores rupees it means is 15 times the education budget. The country like India where 25% of its

⁷<http://thecompanion.in/budget-2016-17-through-the-gender-lens/>

population is still illiterate, only 15% of Indian students reach high school, and just 7% of the 165% who make it to high school, graduate. According to the census of 2011, every person above the age of 7 years who can read and write in any language is said to be literate.

If Indian government focuses on curbing down poverty, illiteracy, population explosion and corruption, India can be best nation of the world. Spending money on defense is not solution any of these problems. Government should start spend money on research and development of in-house weapon development so India can become power itself rather depending on the other countries.

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

Sexual violence is any sexual act or attempt to obtain a sexual act by violence or coercion, unwanted sexual comments or advances, acts to traffic a person or acts directed against a person's sexuality, regardless of the relationship to the victim. It occurs in times of peace and armed conflict situations, is widespread and is considered to be one of the most traumatic, pervasive, and most common human rights violations. Human rights law, notably the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) provide protection against sexual and gender-based violence, including by establishing safeguards against sexual violence as a result of gender based discrimination.

United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) was unanimously adopted, the striking absence of women from formal peace negotiations reveals a troubling gap between the aspirations of countless global and regional commitments and the reality of peace processes. It has been 33 years since the adoption of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), 30 years since the UN General Assembly's declaration on the participation of women in promoting international peace and cooperation, 17 years since the UN convened the fourth world conference on women and participating governments issued the Beijing Declaration and Platform for action, and 12 years since resolution 1325 (2000) made women's participation in all aspects of peacekeeping, peacemaking and peace building part of the remit of the security council. The average numbers of women participating in peace negotiations in official roles—as negotiators, mediators, signatories or witnesses—remain notably low. This imperative has been reiterated in subsequent resolutions, including 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), and 1960 (2010), and in several reports of the secretary-general on mediation and on women, peace and security.

United Nations Security Council Resolution 1820 was unanimously adopted on 19 June 2008. It condemns the use of sexual violence as a tool of war, and declares that “rape and other forms of sexual violence can constitute war crimes, crimes against humanity or a constitutive act with respect to genocide”. The adoption of the resolution

marked the first time that the UN explicitly linked sexual violence as a tactic of war with women, peace, and security issues. Security Council Resolution 1820 reinforces United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 and highlights that sexual violence in conflict constitutes a war crime and demands parties to armed conflict to immediately take appropriate measures to protect civilians from sexual violence, including training troops and enforcing disciplinary measures. In November 2010, the UN Secretary General presented a report on the implementation of UNSCR 1820.

Understanding Concept of Diversity and Racial Discrimination

The concept of diversity encompasses acceptance and respect. It means understanding that each individual is unique, and recognizing our individual differences. These can be along the dimensions of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, physical abilities, religious beliefs, political beliefs, or other ideologies. It is the exploration of these differences in a safe, positive, and nurturing environment. It is about understanding each other and moving beyond simple tolerance to embracing and celebrating the rich dimensions of diversity contained within each individual.

It is extremely important to support and protect diversity because by valuing individuals and groups free from prejudice, and by fostering a climate where equity and mutual respect are intrinsic. "Diversity" means more than just acknowledging and/or tolerating difference.

"Racial discrimination" shall mean any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on race, colour, descent, or national or ethnic origin which has the purpose or effect of nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise, on an equal footing, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural or any other field of public life. Example of Government of India addressing Racial Discrimination against the People of Northeast.

Example of Government of India addressing Racial Discrimination Against the People of Northeast

Bezbaruah Committee

The Bezbaruah Committee, headed by M.P. Bezbaruah, Member, North Eastern Council, was set up in February 2014 after the death of Nido Tania, a 19-year-old student from Arunachal Pradesh, who died in Delhi on January 29, 2014. A Member of Control Arms Foundation of India was the part of this committee. The Committee's mandate was to listen to the issues raised by people from Northeast India living in other areas of the country, especially metro cities. The recommendations of the committee are:⁸

1. New or strict law:

⁸<http://www.assams.info/articles/m-p-bezbaruah-committee-recommendations>

Committee recommended that either a new law should be promulgated to take care of the incidents of racial nature or the Section 153 of IPC should be amended. In any case, the offence should be cognizable and non-bailable. The FIR should be completed within 60 days by a Special Squad. Special prosecutor should be appointed to handle such cases. Trail should be completed in 90 days.

Amendment of IPC would insert following “Word, gesture or act intended to insult a member of a particular racial group or of any race”. That means, any word, gesture or act intended to insult any member of a particular or any race for whatever reason or for reason of their place of origin, racial features, behaviour pattern, customs, dresses shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years with find.

2. Facilities for legal assistance: Panel of lawyers for legal assistance and consultation through mobile phone, email etc. NE lawyers would be given preference and 50% members of the panel may be women. Legal awareness training for NE representatives, legal awareness campaign in vulnerable areas. Lecture on legal rights during fresher’s meet at major universities. Dissemination of information on legal rights to NE youths. Pro-active initiative for victim compensation and monetary assistance.

3. Strengthening Law Enforcement Agencies: Sensitization and training of the police personnel, minimizing delays in investigation, improving quality of investigation, recruiting sufficient number of persons from SC/ST/minorities as police personnel etc.

4. Special Police initiatives: Creation of fast track courts, North East Special Police Unit should have the power of a police station, creation of special squad supervised by the North East Special Police Unit, specially designated public prosecutors for cases involving people from North East. Special helpline for North East Youths 1093 to be synchronised with PCR 100 number. Data bank of all crimes against North East people.

5. Educating people about North East: Educating future generations on the history and culture of North East by inserting suitable text in the text books. NCERT should introduce certain aspects of the “Northeast ethos” into the curriculum. Teachers training institutes would make their syllabus to sensitize their trainees on the NE India.

6. Creating awareness: Prime coverage to NE in media facilities under Information & Broadcasting ministry. Resources of NE as visible faces in the visual media. Media should be careful while covering racial cases. Wide publicity to sport schemes for Northeast. Indigenous games of NE to be promoted. Promoting tourism as a means of creating awareness and understanding.

Provisions within the Indian Constitution on addressing the issue of Discrimination

Article 14 Constitution of	The State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or
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India	the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India
Article 15 Constitution of India	Prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth.— (1) The State shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, and place of birth or any of them. (2) No citizen shall, on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them, be subject to any disability, liability, restriction or condition with regard to— (a) Access to shops, public restaurants, hotels and places of public entertainment; or (b) The use of wells, tanks, bathing ghats, roads and places of public resort maintained wholly or partly out of State funds or dedicated to the use of the general public.
The Criminal Law Removal of Racial Discrimination Act 1949	<i>Outdated and archaic law. To Repeal Section 56 of the Indian Penal Code which discriminated between Indian and Europe-American convicts. The section demanded a sentence of 'transportation for life' for convicted Indians as opposed to the relatively simple manual labour that was awarded to their European counterparts.⁹</i>
The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989	The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Act, 2015 to ensure more stringent provisions for prevention of Atrocities against Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Further, in 2012, the Ministry of Home Affairs recommended that all States notify the term "Chinki" as an offence under the Act. ¹⁰ <i>However, many citizens from the North East states are not members of the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes community and hence cannot seek protection under this Act.</i>
Section 153 A of the Indian Penal Code, 1860	Deals with the offence of promotion of enmity between classes on the grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language, etc. The Committee also considered the second alternative of amendment of Section 153 of IPC.

The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) is the body of independent experts that monitors implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination by its State parties.

All States parties are obliged to submit regular reports to the Committee on how the rights are being implemented. States must report initially one year after acceding to the

⁹http://www.delhipolicygroup.com/uploads/pages_file/1062_Brief_Note_for_Bezbaruah_Committee_on_Racial_Discrimination_Law.pdf

¹⁰<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=135764>

Convention and then every two years. The Committee examines each report and addresses its concerns and recommendations to the State party in the form of “concluding observations”.

Sustainable Development Goals as described by the UN to be achieved by the year 2030.

SDG/ Target/ Indicator	Description
5.1	End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere;
5.2	Eliminate violence against all women & girls including trafficking & sexual & other exploitation;
5.5	Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life;
10.3	Ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard;
16.b	Promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development;
16.1	Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related deaths everywhere (incl. conflict, impunity related);
16.3	Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all;
16.10	Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements;



Annexure-1



United Nations

A/RES/18/1904

General Assembly

Distr: General
November 1963

Eighteenth session
Agenda item 43

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly¹¹

1904 (XVIII). United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

The General Assembly,

Considering that the Charter of the United Nations is based on the principles of the dignity and equality of all human beings and seeks, among other basic objectives, to achieve international co-operation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Considering that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out in the Declaration, without distinction of any kind, in particular as to race, colour or national origin,

Considering that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims further that all are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law and that all are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination and against any incitement to such discrimination,

Considering that the United Nations has condemned colonialism and all practices of segregation and

¹¹<http://www.un-documents.net/a18r1904.htm>

discrimination associated therewith, and that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples proclaims in particular the necessity of bringing colonialism to a speedy and unconditional end,

Considering that any doctrine of racial differentiation or superiority is scientifically false, morally condemnable, socially unjust and dangerous, and that there is no justification for racial discrimination either in theory or in practice,

Taking into account the other resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the international instruments adopted by the specialized agencies, in particular the International Labour Organisation and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in the field of discrimination,

Taking into account the fact that, although international action and efforts in a number of countries have made it possible to achieve progress in that field, discrimination based on race, colour or ethnic origin in certain areas of the world continues none the less to give cause for serious concern,

Alarmed by the manifestations of racial discrimination still in evidence in some areas of the world, some of which are imposed by certain Governments by means of legislative, administrative or other measures, in the form, inter alia, of apartheid, segregation and separation, as well as by the promotion and dissemination of doctrines of racial superiority and expansionism in certain areas,

Convinced that all forms of racial discrimination and, still more so, governmental policies based on the prejudice of racial superiority or on racial hatred, besides constituting a violation of fundamental human rights, tend to jeopardize friendly relations among peoples, co-operation between nations and international peace and security,

Convinced also that racial discrimination harms not only those who are its objects but also those who practise it.

Convinced further that the building of a world society free from all forms of racial segregation and discrimination, factors which create hatred and division among men, is one of the fundamental objectives of the United Nations,

1. Solemnly affirms the necessity of speedily eliminating racial discrimination throughout the world, in all its forms and manifestations, and of securing understanding of and respect for the dignity of the human person;
2. Solemnly affirms the necessity of adopting national and international measures to that end, including teaching, education and information, in order to secure the universal and effective recognition and observance of the principles set forth below;
3. Proclaims this Declaration:

Article 1

Discrimination between human beings on the ground of race, colour or ethnic origin is an offence to human dignity and shall be condemned as a denial of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as a violation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as an obstacle to friendly and peaceful relations among nations and as a fact capable of disturbing peace and security among peoples.

Article 2

1. No State, institution, group or individual shall make any discrimination whatsoever in matters of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the treatment of persons, groups of persons or institutions on the ground of race,

colour or ethnic origin.

2. No State shall encourage, advocate or lend its support, through police action or otherwise, to any discrimination based on race, colour or ethnic origin by any group, institution or individual.

3. Special concrete measures shall be taken in appropriate circumstances in order to secure adequate development or protection of individuals belonging to certain racial groups with the object of ensuring the full enjoyment by such individuals of human rights and fundamental freedoms. These measures shall in no circumstances have as a consequence the maintenance of unequal or separate rights for different racial groups.

Article 3

1. Particular efforts shall be made to prevent discrimination based on race, colour or ethnic origin, especially in the fields of civil rights, access to citizenship, education, religion, employment, occupation and housing.

2. Everyone shall have equal access to any place or facility intended for use by the general public, without distinction as to race, colour or ethnic origin.

Article 4

All States shall take effective measures to revise governmental and other public policies and to rescind laws and regulations which have the effect of creating and perpetuating racial discrimination wherever it still exists. They should pass legislation for prohibiting such discrimination and should take all appropriate measures to combat those prejudices which lead to racial discrimination.

Article 5

An end shall be put without delay to governmental and other public policies of racial segregation and especially policies of apartheid, as well as all forms of racial discrimination and separation resulting from such policies.

Article 6

No discrimination by reason of race, colour or ethnic origin shall be admitted in the enjoyment by any person of political and citizenship rights in his country, in particular the right to participate in elections through universal and equal suffrage and to take part in the government. Everyone has the right of equal access to public service in his country.

Article 7

1. Everyone has the right to equality before the law and to equal justice under the law. Everyone, without distinction as to race, colour or ethnic origin, has the right to security of person and protection by the State against violence or bodily harm, whether inflicted by government officials or by any individual, group or institution.

2. Everyone shall have the right to an effective remedy and protection against any discrimination he may suffer on the ground of race, colour or ethnic origin with respect to his fundamental rights and freedoms through independent national tribunals competent to deal with such matters.

Article 8

All effective steps shall be taken immediately in the fields of teaching, education and information, with a view to eliminating racial discrimination and prejudice and promoting understanding, tolerance and friendship among nations and racial groups, as well as to propagating the purposes and principles of the Charter, of the Universal

Declaration of Human Rights, and of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Article 9

1. All propaganda and organizations based on ideas or theories of the superiority of one race or group of persons of one colour or ethnic origin with a view to justifying or promoting racial discrimination in any form shall be severely condemned.
2. All incitement to or acts of violence, whether by individuals or organizations against any race or group of persons of another colour or ethnic origin shall be considered an offence against society and punishable under law.
3. In order to put into effect the purposes and principles of the present Declaration, all States shall take immediate and positive measures, including legislative and other measures, to prosecute and/or outlaw organizations which promote or incite to racial discrimination, or incite to or use violence for purposes of discrimination based on race, colour or ethnic origin.

Article 10

The United Nations, the specialized agencies, States and non-governmental organizations shall do all in their power to promote energetic action which, by combining legal and other practical measures, will make possible the abolition of all forms of racial discrimination. They shall, in particular, study the causes of such discrimination with a view to recommending appropriate and effective measures to combat and eliminate it.

Article 11

Every State shall promote respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and shall fully and faithfully observe the provisions of the present Declaration, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

1261st plenary meeting
20 November 1963



Security Council

Distr.: General
19 June 2008

Resolution 1820 (2008)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 5916th meeting, on 19 June 2008

The Security Council,

Reaffirming its commitment to the continuing and full implementation of resolution 1325 (2000), 1612 (2005) and 1674 (2006) and recalling the Statements of its president of 31 October 2001 (Security Council/PRST/2001/31), 31 October 2002 (Security Council/PRST/2002/32), 28 October 2004 (Security Council/PRST/2004/40), 27 October 2005 (Security Council/PRST/2005/52), 8 November 2006 (Security Council/PRST/2006/42), 7 March 2007 (Security Council/PRST/2007/5), and 24 October 2007 (Security Council/PRST/2007/40);

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the resolve expressed in the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, including by ending impunity and by ensuring the protection of civilians, in particular women and girls, during and after armed conflicts, in accordance with the obligations States have undertaken under international humanitarian law and international human rights law;

Recalling the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (A/52/231) as well as those contained in the outcome document of the twenty-third Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the Twenty-first Century” (A/S-23/10/Rev.1), in particular those concerning sexual violence and women in situations of armed conflict;

Reaffirming also the obligations of States Parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Optional Protocol thereto, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto, and *urging* states that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to them,

Noting that civilians account for the vast majority of those adversely affected by armed conflict; that women and girls are particularly targeted by the use of sexual violence, including as a tactic of war to humiliate, dominate, instill fear in, disperse and/or forcibly relocate civilian members of a community or ethnic group;

and that sexual violence perpetrated in this manner may in some instances persist after the cessation of hostilities;

Recalling its condemnation in the strongest terms of all sexual and other forms of violence committed against civilians in armed conflict, in particular women and children;

Reiterating deep concern that, despite its repeated condemnation of violence against women and children in situations of armed conflict, including sexual violence in situations of armed conflict, and despite its calls addressed to all parties to armed conflict for the cessation of such acts with immediate effect, such acts continue to occur, and in some situations have become systematic and widespread, reaching appalling levels of brutality,

Recalling the inclusion of a range of sexual violence offences in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and the statutes of the ad hoc international criminal tribunals,

Reaffirming the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace building, and *stressing* the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security, and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution,

Deeply concerned also about the persistent obstacles and challenges to women's participation and full involvement in the prevention and resolution of conflicts as a result of violence, intimidation and discrimination, which erode women's capacity and legitimacy to participate in post-conflict public life, and acknowledging the negative impact this has on durable peace, security and reconciliation, including post-conflict peace building,

Recognizing that States bear primary responsibility to respect and ensure the human rights of their citizens, as well as all individuals within their territory as provided for by relevant international law,

Reaffirming that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of affected civilians,

Welcoming the ongoing coordination of efforts within the United Nations system, marked by the inter-agency initiative "United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict," to create awareness about sexual violence in armed conflicts and post-conflict situations and, ultimately, to put an end to it,

1. *Stresses* that sexual violence, when used or commissioned as a tactic of war in order to deliberately target civilians or as a part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations, can significantly exacerbate situations of armed conflict and may impede the restoration of international peace and security, *affirms* in this regard that effective steps to prevent and respond to such acts of sexual violence can significantly contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security, and *expresses its readiness*, when considering situations on the agenda of the Council, to, where necessary, adopt appropriate steps to address widespread or systematic sexual violence;

2. *Demands* the immediate and complete cessation by all parties to armed conflict of all acts of sexual violence against civilians with immediate effect;

3. *Demands* that all parties to armed conflict immediately take appropriate measures to protect civilians, including women and girls, from all forms of sexual violence, which could include, inter alia, enforcing appropriate military disciplinary measures and upholding the principle of command responsibility, training troops on the categorical prohibition of all forms of sexual violence against civilians, debunking myths that fuel sexual violence, vetting armed and security forces to take into account past actions of rape and other forms of sexual violence, and evacuation of women and children under imminent threat of sexual violence to safety; and *requests* the Secretary-General, where appropriate, to encourage dialogue to address this issue in the context of broader discussions of conflict resolution between appropriate UN officials and the parties to the conflict, taking into account, inter alia, the views expressed by women of affected local communities;

4. *Notes* that rape and other forms of sexual violence can constitute a war crime, a crime against humanity, or a constitutive act with respect to genocide, *stresses the need for* the exclusion of sexual violence crimes from amnesty provisions in the context of conflict resolution processes, and *calls upon* Member States to comply with their obligations for prosecuting persons responsible for such acts, to ensure that all victims of sexual violence, particularly women and girls, have equal protection under the law and equal access to justice, and *stresses* the importance of ending impunity for such acts as part of a comprehensive approach to seeking sustainable peace, justice, truth, and national reconciliation;

5. *Affirms its intention*, when establishing and renewing state-specific sanctions regimes, to take into consideration the appropriateness of targeted and graduated measures against parties to situations of armed conflict who commit rape and other forms of sexual violence against women and girls in situations of armed conflict;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Security Council, the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations and its Working Group and relevant States, as appropriate, to develop and implement appropriate training programs for all peacekeeping and humanitarian personnel deployed by the United Nations in the context of missions as mandated by the Council to help them better prevent, recognize and respond to sexual violence and other forms of violence against civilians;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue and strengthen efforts to implement the policy of zero tolerance of sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations; and *urges* troop and police contributing countries to take appropriate preventative action, including pre-deployment and in-theater awareness training, and other action to ensure full accountability in cases of such conduct involving their personnel;

8. *Encourages* troop and police contributing countries, in consultation with the Secretary-General, to consider steps they could take to heighten awareness and the responsiveness of their personnel participating in UN peacekeeping operations to protect civilians, including women and children, and prevent sexual violence against women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations, including wherever possible the deployment of a higher percentage of women peacekeepers or police;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to develop effective guidelines and strategies to enhance the ability of relevant UN peacekeeping operations, consistent

with their mandates, to protect civilians, including women and girls, from all forms of sexual violence and to systematically include in his written reports to the Council on conflict situations his observations concerning the protection of women and girls and recommendations in this regard;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations agencies, inter alia, through consultation with women and women-led organizations as appropriate, to develop effective mechanisms for providing protection from violence, including in particular sexual violence, to women and girls in and around UN managed refugee and internally displaced persons camps, as well as in all disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration processes, and in justice and security sector reform efforts assisted by the United Nations;

11. *Stresses* the important role the Peace building Commission can play by including in its advice and recommendations for post-conflict peace building strategies, where appropriate, ways to address sexual violence committed during and in the aftermath of armed conflict, and in ensuring consultation and effective representation of women's civil society in its country-specific configurations, as part of its wider approach to gender issues;

12. *Urges* the Secretary-General and his Special Envoys to invite women to participate in discussions pertinent to the prevention and resolution of conflict, the maintenance of peace and security, and post-conflict peace building, and encourages all parties to such talks to facilitate the equal and full participation of women at decision-making levels;

13. *Urges* all parties concerned, including Member States, United Nations entities and financial institutions, to support the development and strengthening of the capacities of national institutions, in particular of judicial and health systems, and of local civil society networks in order to provide sustainable assistance to victims of sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations;

14. *Urges* appropriate regional and sub-regional bodies in particular to consider developing and implementing policies, activities, and advocacy for the benefit of women and girls affected by sexual violence in armed conflict;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Council by 30 June 2009 on the implementation of this resolution in the context of situations which are on the agenda of the Council, utilizing information from available United Nations sources, including country teams, peacekeeping operations, and other United Nations personnel, which would include, inter alia, information on situations of armed conflict in which sexual violence has been widely or systematically employed against civilians; analysis of the prevalence and trends of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict; proposals for strategies to minimize the susceptibility of women and girls to such violence; benchmarks for measuring progress in preventing and addressing sexual violence; appropriate input from United Nations implementing partners in the field; information on his plans for facilitating the collection of timely, objective, accurate, and reliable information on the use of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict, including through improved coordination of UN activities on the ground and at Headquarters; and information on actions taken by parties to armed conflict to implement their responsibilities as described in this resolution, in particular by immediately and completely ceasing all acts of sexual violence and in taking appropriate measures to protect women and girls from all forms of sexual violence.

16. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

08-391445

Annexure -3



United Nations

S/RES/1325 (2000)

United Nations Security Council

Distr: General
31 October 2000

Agenda Item 201

Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) [on women and peace and security]¹²

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions 1261 (1999) of 25 August 1999, 1265 (1999) of 17 September 1999, 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000 and 1314 (2000) of 11 August 2000, as well as relevant statements of its President, and recalling also the statement of its President to the press on the occasion of the United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace (International Women's Day) of 8 March 2000 (SC/6816),

Recalling also the commitments of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (A/52/231) as well as those contained in the outcome document of the twenty-third Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the Twenty-First Century" (A/S-23/10/Rev.1), in particular those concerning women and armed conflict,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Expressing concern that civilians, particularly women and children, account for the vast majority of those adversely affected by armed conflict, including as refugees and internally displaced persons, and increasingly are targeted by combatants and armed elements, and recognizing the consequent impact this has on durable peace and reconciliation,

Reaffirming the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building, and stressing the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and

¹²<http://www.un-documents.net/sr1325.htm>

promotion of peace and security, and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution,

Reaffirming also the need to implement fully international humanitarian and human rights law that protects the rights of women and girls during and after conflicts,

Emphasizing the need for all parties to ensure that mine clearance and mine awareness programmes take into account the special needs of women and girls,

Recognizing the urgent need to mainstream a gender perspective into peacekeeping operations, and in this regard noting the Windhoek Declaration and the Namibia Plan of Action on Mainstreaming a Gender Perspective in Multidimensional Peace Support Operations (S/2000/693),

Recognizing also the importance of the recommendation contained in the statement of its President to the press of 8 March 2000 for specialized training for all peacekeeping personnel on the protection, special needs and human rights of women and children in conflict situations,

Recognizing that an understanding of the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, effective institutional arrangements to guarantee their protection and full participation in the peace process can significantly contribute to the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security,

Noting the need to consolidate data on the impact of armed conflict on women and girls,

1. *Urges* Member States to ensure increased representation of women at all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions and mechanisms for the prevention, management, and resolution of conflict;

2. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to implement his strategic plan of action (A/49/587) calling for an increase in the participation of women at decision-making levels in conflict resolution and peace processes;

3. *Urges* the Secretary-General to appoint more women as special representatives and envoys to pursue good offices on his behalf, and in this regard calls on Member States to provide candidates to the Secretary-General, for inclusion in a regularly updated centralized roster;

4. *Further urges* the Secretary-General to seek to expand the role and contribution of women in United Nations field-based operations, and especially among military observers, civilian police, human rights and humanitarian personnel;

5. *Expresses* its willingness to incorporate a gender perspective into peacekeeping operations, and urges the Secretary-General to ensure that, where appropriate, field operations include a gender component;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide to Member States training guidelines and materials on the protection, rights and the particular needs of women, as well as on the importance of involving women in all peacekeeping and peace-building measures, invites Member States to incorporate these elements as well as HIV/AIDS awareness training into their national training programmes for military and civilian police personnel in preparation for deployment, and further requests the Secretary-General to ensure that civilian personnel of peacekeeping operations receive similar training;

7. *Urges* Member States to increase their voluntary financial, technical and logistical support for gender-sensitive training efforts, including those undertaken by relevant funds and programmes, inter alia, the United Nations Fund for Women and United Nations Children's Fund, and by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant bodies;

8. *Calls on* all actors involved, when negotiating and implementing peace agreements, to adopt a gender perspective, including, inter alia:

- a. The special needs of women and girls during repatriation and resettlement and for rehabilitation, reintegration and post-conflict reconstruction;
- b. Measures that support local women's peace initiatives and indigenous processes for conflict resolution, and that involve women in all of the implementation mechanisms of the peace agreements;
- c. Measures that ensure the protection of and respect for human rights of women and girls, particularly as they relate to the constitution, the electoral system, the police and the judiciary;

9. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflict to respectfully international law applicable to the rights and protection of women and girls, especially as civilians, in particular the obligations applicable to them under the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977, the Refugee Convention of 1951 and the Protocol thereto of 1967, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women of 1979 and the Optional Protocol thereto of 1999 and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child of 1989 and the two Optional Protocols thereto of 25 May 2000, and to bear in mind the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;

10. *Calls on* all parties to armed conflict to take special measures to protect women and girls from gender-based violence, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse, and all other forms of violence in situations of armed conflict;

11. *Emphasizes* the responsibility of all States to put an end to impunity and to prosecute those responsible for genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes including those relating to sexual and other violence against women and girls, and in this regard stresses the need to exclude these crimes, where feasible from amnesty provisions;

12. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflict to respect the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements, and to take into account the particular needs of women and girls, including in their design, and recalls its resolutions 1208 (1998) of 19 November 1998 and 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000;

13. *Encourages* all those involved in the planning for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration to consider the different needs of female and male ex-combatants and to take into account the needs of their dependants;

14. *Reaffirms* its readiness, whenever measures are adopted under Article 41 of the Charter of the United Nations, to give consideration to their potential impact on the civilian population, bearing in mind the special needs of women and girls, in order to consider appropriate humanitarian exemptions;

15. *Expresses* its willingness to ensure that Security Council missions take into account gender considerations and the rights of women, including through consultation with local and international women's groups;

16. *Invites* the Secretary-General to carry out a study on the impact of armed conflict on women and girls, the role of women in peace-building and the gender dimensions of peace processes and conflict resolution, and further invites him to submit a report to the Security Council on the results of this study and to make this available to all Member States of the United Nations;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, where appropriate, to include in his reporting to the Security Council progress on gender mainstreaming throughout peacekeeping missions and all other aspects relating to women and girls;

18. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.



Control Arms Foundation of India (CAFI) founded 10th September 2004 in New Delhi by a group of concerned citizens to address rising armed violence and weaponisation in India. Every year 5000 Indians are shot dead due to weapons misuse. CAFI leads work in India on humanitarian disarmament and gender. CAFI conducts research, writing, and advocacy relief work to ensure safety and security for all. CAFI efforts have been awarded Best Humanitarian Initiative of the Year Award 2010, Sean Macbride Peace Prize 2010, CNN IBN Real Heroes Award 2011 and CNN IBN Indian of the year Award in special category for 2011. In 2013, London-based Action on Armed Violence named us on list of 100 most influential people in the world in armed violence reduction. We were also presented with Devi Awards in 2014, L'Oreal Paris Femina Women Awards 2015 and Young Women Achievers Award by Young FICCI Ladies Organization in 2015.

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Multiple Action Research Group (MARG)

Since 1985 MARG has been engaged in the legal empowerment of disadvantaged and marginalized groups through legal awareness, socio-legal research, advocacy initiatives and legal aid. MARG has extensive experience in conducting legal literacy workshops on laws relating to constitutional rights, livelihood, protection of women from violence, personal laws, political participation through panchayats and discrimination.

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European Union

European Union is a unique partnership of 28 independent nations or Member States in a political and economic union that facilitates development within the region and enhances its influence at the global level. EU has received the Nobel Peace Prize for six decades of work in advancing peace in 2012.

Delegation of the European Union to India:

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