



Téléfax:
Télégrammes: UNATIONS, GENEVE
Téléx: 41 29 62
Téléphone: (41-22)-917 9614
Internet
E-mail: tschackel@ohchr.org



www.ohchr.org

Address:
Palais des Nations
CH-1211 GENEVE 10

REFERENCE: TS//JF

13 March 2009

Excellency,

The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination hereby wishes to follow up its letter dated 15 August 2008. The Committee was expecting to be informed by March 2008 on the measures taken by your Government to follow up on the recommendations contained in paragraphs 12, 15, 19 and 26 of its concluding observations on India. The Committee notes with regret that to date, it has not received any information from in this respect.

The construction of several dams in the region of Northeast India remains an issue of concern for the Committee with regard to the consequences for the indigenous communities of the region. Indeed, it has recently been brought to the attention of the Committee that the Indian government (Ministry of Environment and Forests) has issued an "environmental clearance permit" allowing for the construction of the Tipaimukh dam without meaningfully seeking to obtain prior consent of the affected indigenous peoples. The Committee therefore reiterates its request for the State Party to submit comments on the implementation of the recommendations contained in paragraph 19 of its concluding observations and in particular to provide detailed information on the compensation measures for the affected persons.

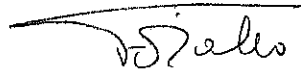
Also, with regard to the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act of 1958, the Committee refers once again to paragraph 12 of its concluding observations and urges the State Party to follow its recommendation of repealing it. The Committee therefore reiterates its request for the State Party to submit comments on this matter and in particular on the recent extension of "disturbed area" declarations throughout the region of Northeast India.

His Excellency Mr. Gopinathan Achamkulangare
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations Office at Geneva
Rue du Valais 9 (6th Floor)
1202 Geneva

Fax: 41 22 906 86 96

Allow me, Excellency, to reiterate the Committee's wish to pursue a constructive dialogue with your Government and underline that the Committee's requests for information are made with a view to assisting your Government in the effective implementation of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'F. Dah', with a horizontal line above it.

Fatimata-Binta Victoire Dah
Chairperson of the Committee for the
Elimination of Racial Discrimination