

Item 8

PF17 Samarjit Singha
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Ref:

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Tenth anniversary of the UNDRIP: Measures taken to implement the Declaration

Representation to the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues 16th Session, 24th – 5th May 2017

Honorable Chairperson,

Distinguished Members of the Permanent Forum, Govt. and Non-Govt. Representatives, UN Agencies, Fellow Indigenous Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Greater Sylhet Indigenous Peoples Forum (GSIPF) is pleased that the UNPFII have this year chosen to review the implementation situation of UNDRIP.

Indigenous Peoples in the country are experiencing the worse situation by becoming victim of quite land grabbing and eviction from their own ancestral land and violation of human rights.

The government has taken some positive steps, such as amendment of the CHT Land Dispute Resolution Commission Act in accordance with the CHT Peace Accord. If the government would establish a land commission for the indigenous peoples of the plains lands, it would contribute greatly to solving the problems of the indigenous peoples who have lost their lands due to land grabbing and other reasons.

There are few improvements in the human rights situation of indigenous peoples. Extra judicial killing in Santal area in north Bengal was a recent example of human rights violations.

We urge the government to take necessary measures so that the rights of the minorities are protected.

The lack of implementation of the UNDRIP as well as other human rights instruments bring no development on the deplorable situation facing Indigenous peoples in the country. We seek the suggestions of the international community on how to solve our problems.

Thank You very much for your kind attention.

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