

UPR WORKING GROUP FIRST SESSION
(7-18 April 2008)

UPR of UNITED KINGDOM-INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE
(10 April 2008)

INTERVENTION BY INDIA

Mr. Chairman, Madam High Commissioner, Distinguished Members of the Delegation of United Kingdom!

2. My delegation would like to thank the delegation of United Kingdom for the information provided and the presentation just made. These provide an excellent basis for the members of the Working Group to constructively engage with the delegation in an interactive exchange. We shall be brief.

3. There have been reports about increasing racial prejudice and discrimination against ethnic minorities, asylum seekers and immigrants. This concern has also been expressed by CERD and UNHCR. Could you help us understand better what the actual situation on the ground is and what is the basis of such reports? Would you consider introduction of domestic legislation prohibiting discrimination on the ground of colour and nationality as recommended by CERD?

4. There have also been reports and allegations of an increase in violence against women. Despite the existence of three Inter-Ministerial groups on violence, there are reports about incoherence and fragmentation in the Government's response and the absence of a Plan of Action.

5. A strategic oversight body, such as a Commission on Violence Against Women may be set up to ensure greater coherence and more effective protection of women. Would this recommendation be acceptable?

Thanking you Mr. Chairman.