



STATEMENT BY MR. KUNWAR SARVRAJ SINGH, MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT AND
MEMBER OF THE INDIAN DELEGATION, ON DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.3/62/L.41
[REV.I] TITLED 'SITUATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN MYANMAR AT THE THIRD
COMMITTEE OF THE 62ND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL
ASSEMBLY ON NOVEMBER 20, 2007

Mr. Chairman,

We would like to thank you for allowing my delegation to make an Explanation of Vote after the Vote on the draft resolution A/C.3/62/L.41 (Rev.1) titled "Situation of human rights in Myanmar"

India has always emphasized the importance of promotion and protection of human rights through dialogue, consultation and cooperation, as such an approach has a better chance of leading to genuine improvement in the enjoyment of human rights by the people of a country. We are once again faced in this Committee by a major challenge in determining the most effective approach for promotion and protection of human rights. We need a self-critical appraisal of whether the international community has managed to achieve a genuine improvement in human rights through giving of 'report cards' against countries or even by undertaking intrusive monitoring.

In connection with the recent developments in Myanmar, India has consistently maintained that all initiatives taken in this connection should be forward-looking, non-condemnatory and seek to engage the Government of Myanmar in a non-intrusive and constructive manner. We believe that such an approach will also support the UN Secretary General's Good Offices and his Special Advisor Mr. Ibrahim Gambari's ongoing dialogue with Myanmar. We have impressed upon Myanmar that the process of political reform and national reconciliation should be taken forward expeditiously and should be broad based to include all sections of society. We, consequently, support the UN Secretary

General's initiative for taking this process forward in an integrated and comprehensive manner.

Mr. Chairman,

It is, therefore, a matter of regret that the text of this draft resolution is not in conformity with this approach. By adopting a condemnatory, intrusive and unhelpful tone, this draft resolution will not contribute or strengthen the initiatives being taken by the UN and may, in fact, prove to be counter-productive. It is also not reflective of recent positive steps being taken by the Government of Myanmar, including the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, Dr. Paulo Sergio Pinheiro to Myanmar and the series of meetings between Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and the specially-appointed Minister for Relations.

Since the text of the Resolution is neither in conformity with the UN's own initiative on the Myanmar issue nor current thinking on this matter, we had no option but to vote against the resolution.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

[BACK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)