

UPR WORKING GROUP –FOURTH SESSION  
(2-13 FEBRUARY 2009)

UPR of GERMANY – INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE  
(2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2009)

INTERVENTION BY INDIA

Mr. Chairman,

My delegation would like to welcome the Delegation of Germany and thank them for their presentation.

2. Germany had introduced anti-terrorism legislation in the 1970s to deal with the situation arising out of the violent acts of the Red Army Faction in the country. My delegation would be interested in knowing the key features of the legislation in this regard, the duration for which these were or have been in force, and if and when these have been finally reviewed?

Mr. Chairman,

3. CERD has expressed concern about the increase of reported racist incidents involving the Romas and Sintis who continue to experience discrimination. CEDAW has also drawn attention to the situation, inter-alia, of Roma and Sinti women who suffer from multiple forms of discrimination. Would the delegation of Germany please provide us with information about these observations and the problems faced in implementation of the measures it has put in place to address the situation?

4. In 2004 the Human Rights Committee reiterated its concern that persons belonging to certain religious organizations or belief are disqualified from obtaining employment in the public service. Similarly, it is stated that a number of the German states have issued legislation forbidding teachers in public schools to wear religious symbols in schools while, at the same time, most of them have provided exceptions for symbols of a specific religion. Could the delegation please comment on these issues?

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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Germany's statement for India's  
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GERMANY

GERMANY

INDIA

We would like to thank the Delegation of India for its comprehensive preparation for today's dialogue, including its National report. We would like to take this opportunity to ask for further information on three specific areas with regards to the implementation of existing national standards.

1. The first question addresses the situation of the Dalit and other scheduled castes: We would like to learn more about measures undertaken to ensure their equal treatment in society, in particular regarding access to land, education and medical services as well as with regard to the allocation of derogative and harmful work. How far the Concluding Observations of the CERD-Committee have been taken into account in this respect? Could you also elaborate on progress achieved with regard to the implementation of the concluding observations of the CEDAW regarding the situation of Dalit women, and especially measures to tackle sexual and other forms of violence against women.
2. Second. The UN Human Rights Committee, the CERD and the CEDAW have all recommended to repeal the the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act of 1958. We would be interested to know the position of the government of India on this issue. Is India considering resuming the modifications of the Armed Forces Special Power Act (AFSPA) and which modification will be considered to align the stipulations of this law with international human rights standards?
3. And last, but not least, we would be interested in concrete steps undertaken by the government of India together with local authorities to implement respective national laws to abolish child labour? What difficulties do the authorities face while implementing these laws?

