



General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 June 2021

English only

Human Rights Council

Forty-seventh session

21 June–9 July 2021

Agenda item 3

**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Written statement* submitted by Association pour l'Intégration et le Développement Durable au Burundi, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[31 May 2021]

* Issued as received, in the language(s) of submission only.



Freedom of expression

I would like to bring forth a very serious issue, with the continuous human rights violations in India. Freedom of expression in India is constantly resulting in the loss of life, of a person who dares to speak the truth. I am referring to the journalists of India, who continue to get killed in the line of their duty. Freedom of speech is a guaranteed right that must also be enjoyed by the journalists in India, however unfortunately, Indian journalists are paying the price of their lives for speaking the truth in India.

Nine years ago, Isravel Moses – who was barely the age of 20, timidly stepped into the office of Thamizhan TV as an area reporter for some villages in Kanchipuram district, in India. On the night of November 8th 2020, Moses was hacked to death as a fallout of his reportage on sales of drugs and illegal encroachment of lands. Even a month before his murder, Moses did a story on the sale of drugs, and how the local Indian police was not taking action on it. The Chennai Press Club said that Moses' murder exposed the vulnerability of journalists in India.

Yesudasan, the father of the killed journalist, holds only one demand to the champions of human rights: "No other journalist should suffer the fate of my son. Will the international community take action to ensure that?"

I think the answer for journalists in India is a big NO! Because 19 days later, another Indian journalist was burnt alive along with his friend in Balrampur, India.

Before breathing his last breath, the journalist informed hospital authorities that he was targeted for writing regularly on a corrupt village chief and her son. So where were those Indian authorities ?

Registering cases and just arresting a few accused is NOT NEARLY ENOUGH, to save the lives of journalists in India. The Indian judicial system and the Indian government must come up with a solution, instead of just singing their own praises about "how well India is doing in human rights." WHERE ARE THE HUMAN RIGHTS FOR THE TARGETTED JOURNALISTS IN INDIA?! WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR CONSTANT DEATHS?!!
