



# General Assembly

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## Human Rights Council

### Fifty-third session

19 June–14 July 2023

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 Human Is Right, 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.

[26 May 2023]

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\* Issued as received, in the language of submission only.



## **Poor Condition of Climate Change in India and Its Effects on People**

Climate change threatens the effective enjoyment of a range of human rights including those to life, water and sanitation, food, health, housing, self-determination, culture and development. States have a human rights obligation to prevent the foreseeable adverse effects of climate change and ensure that those affected by it, particularly those in vulnerable situations, have access to effective remedies and means of adaptation to enjoy lives of human dignity. My organization wants to bring council attention towards India where the country is third on the list globally for greenhouse gas emissions and by 2030, emissions are projected to rise to between 4 billion and 5.6 billion metric tons, according to modelling studies, which is very worrying. On the other hand, Indian government made it its mission to massively expand coal mining in the country. Despite climate pollution, India hopes to grow economically by burning more coal. Investing in new coal, oil and gas projects must stop to hit climate goals, global energy agency says but to meet the energy need of India, the excavation of coal is becoming commercialized, and at the same time, various coal-extracting industries have been established. Through the customary practice of mining coal, India is earning revenues, but at the same time, it has resulted in serious health and environmental issues within its gamut. Starting from its excavation to loading and unloading, coal produces dusts and radiation which has a direct negative impact on the ecology, biodiversity, and health of the surrounding communities. During drilling, blasting, sizing, and transportation, the release of total suspended particulate (TSP) matter and inhalable particulate matter (PM10) is the reason of air pollution in and around the mining zone. According to the report prepared by MoEF (Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of India), the critically polluted areas of India due to coal mining are Korba, Anugul, Talcher, Hazaribagh-Chatra, Singrauli, Chandrapur, Raigarh, and Jharsuguda. The air and water of these areas is polluted and people are suffering from various diseases. Indian government fail to tackle climate change and basic human rights of people. As well as with anomalies in temperature and precipitation, concern over climate change in India is rising and it is having serious effects on the lives of Indian people. From heat waves devastating crop yields to torrential rains causing flooding that submerges entire communities. In India, approximately 70% of households rely on agriculture for their livelihoods but are “struggling with lower yields” attributed to “frequent droughts and lower rainfall. Farmers are severely impacted by these unpredictable weather patterns. We urge this council to ask Indian government to stop coal mining and explore alternate energy sources to protect its environments from climate hazards.

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