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Human Rights Council

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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 the World Barua Organization, 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.

[30 May 2016]

* This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

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Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on education

Mr President,

We welcome the opportunity to speak on the issue of education. First of all, we appreciate that the Government of India had established the Right to Education Act in 2005. However, the right to education is not compatible with the rule of the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act of 1958. AFSPA is the instrument of countering the self-determination movement in North East Indian states.

Schools and colleges are misused by Indian army camps in a very short distance from such institutions. To name only few examples:

- The Manipur University (Army camp located within the campus)
- The Manipur Public School (Army camp located within a zero meter distance)

Reports for the last 5 years are saying, that thousands of children especially girls were dropped out from schools due to threat from the nearby army camps.

We are afraid that the Indian army is misusing educational institution as human shields to protect them from attacks.

With pleasure, we will provide the list of more than 70 researched examples if needed.

We request the Human Rights Council to urge the Government of India in order to:

- relocate such military camps immediately;
- invite the Special Rapporteur on education to Manipur and other States of the Northeast of India in order to investigate the impacts of AFSPA on the right to education;
- repeal AFSPA.

Thank you Mr President.
