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

Written statement* submitted by Global Welfare Association, 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.

[18 August 2022]

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



Right to Development and India

The right to development is deeply entwined with the right of people to self-determination, and their right to exercise full sovereignty over all their natural wealth and resources.” The right to development is deeply entwined with the right of people to self-determination, and their right to exercise full sovereignty over all their natural wealth and resources. The right to development, therefore, applies to the entire population of States. My organization wants to bring council attention towards North East Indian state Assam where the Indian government is looting their natural resources but no providing any benefit to Assam and its population.

Assam is abundant in mineral resources like coal, petroleum, limestone and natural gas. It is also the largest producer of crude oil in India. Despite the exploitation of natural resources by Indian government, it has failed to undertake all necessary measures for promoting of the right to development in all its dimensions, be it education, healthcare, nutrition and other essential infrastructure.

In Assam poor infrastructural facilities are one of the serious problems which obstructs the process of right to development. In respect of transportation, communication, loan facilities, power supply, clean water facilities, security etc the rural areas of Assam are very much backward than the urban areas. Number of households using electricity for domestic lighting seems to be unsatisfactory. Indian government's lack of Interest and poverty is regarded as one of the crucial constraints in the path of right to development in Assam. 31.98% of the total population is living below poverty line (BPL) in the state. In the rural areas 33.89% people are living below poverty line as against 20.49% in urban areas. There is a vast gap between the BPL rate of rural and urban areas. The factors of high poverty are-out migration of young and highly skilled laborers, lack of technical jobs and education etc. We urge this council to ask Indian government to work on infrastructure development in assam and provide them their right to development.
