



# General Assembly

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## Human Rights Council

### Fifty-fifth session

26 February–5 April 2024

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 Mother of Hope Cameroon Common Initiative Group, 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.

[22 January 2024]

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



## **Cruel Laws of the Indian Government and Violation of Human Rights**

The Armed Forces Special Powers Act, 1958 in Northeast Indian states not only violates the national humanitarian standards of law, but even international. Under the relevant provisions of International Humanitarian Law the AFSPA was challenged several times. The AFSPA, by its form and in its application, violates the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention Against Torture, the UN Code of Conduct for Law Enforcement Officials, the UN Body of Principles for Protection of All Persons Under any form of Detention and International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. My organization wants to bring council attention towards Nagaland where Naga people are still suffering from Indian military occupation, where more than many checkpoints are setup in every district since the many years. These checkpoints continue to be used for the purpose of keeping the Naga people under military oppression. In these checkpoints the Naga people are treated as second class citizens and subjected to harassment, intimidation and various other abuses under AFSPA 1958. Local stakeholders have time and again observed that land grabbing and confiscations in the name of Insurgency Operations have continued at an alarming level. A large number of military troops remain in the Nagaland, one military member is estimated for each 10 civilians and have acquired thousands of acres of public and private land. A large majority of land is exposed to military occupation in Dimapur, Nuland, Chumoukedima, Mon, Kiphire, Noklak, Phek, and Peren districts. This is a severe violation of human rights and has effect on local livelihood. The alleged land grabbing also perceived as a continuation of a colonial trend that destroys areas of cultural and religious significance to Naga people. People's access is restricted as they are not allowed to enter many important areas due to large military camps and bungalows occupying private land. Another disturbing thing is that the Indian occupied government is repeatedly extended Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 and under this law many human rights violations happening. The AFSPA empowers security forces to arrest a person without a warrant and enter or search premises without a warrant along with some other actions. Victims of AFSPA are still waiting justice and Justice has once again been denied in India under the draconian, colonial-era Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA). In December 2021 Indian security forces fired on an unarmed civilian vehicle, near Oting, Nagaland and killed six unarmed civilians and Indian government has denied prosecuting Indian Army officers who were involved in the killing of civilians. This Council members have the responsibility to protect Naga people from ongoing human rights violations and stop in justice and crimes against humanity. We urge this council to ask Indian government to repeal AFSPA and withdraw its troops from Nagaland.

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