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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 Coordination des Associations et des Particuliers pour la Liberté de Conscience, 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 May 2021]

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



The Religious Factor in the Farmers Bills Protests in India

It all began last year 2020, with the Farmers Reform Bills of India which were not consulted with the farmers nor were debated in the parliament and were brought to effect without any consultation. This act of PM Modi's government proved that the wealthiest families belonging to Gujrat are aiming to force the entire Indian agriculture under their co-operations, seen by many as Indian farmers being made slaves to big co operations and gradually taking away the ownership of their lands through a systematic process designed by few brilliant greedy individuals and politicians where PM Modi and his team have played a key role in. Under these new reforms, the fundamental right to go to court on contractual disputes, under article 6 and 7 of Universal declaration of human Rights (UDHR) has been taken away from the farmers. This is to throw the small farmer of India to the 'market' i.e. a well orchestrated monopoly by the large Hindu owned co-operations and removing all the protections away from the small farmers whom are already under debts.

As the government constantly ignored the concerns of the farmers and their unions, kept a deaf ear on their raised voice, the farmers were pushed to protest. The Panjabi Farmers were the first to come on the roads and protest. The protests commenced on the 25th September 2020, this led to Chief Minister of Panjab, Captain Amrinder Singh to travel to Delhi and speak to PM Modi and his associates. He too was turned down. Here, the farmers decided to travel to Delhi and protest on various Delhi borders. Farmers had to face many challenges on their way to Delhi and were obstructed on many borders with baton charges, Water cannons, dug up roads, blockade road with barb wires, tear gas, live ammunition, and truck, buses and concrete barricades. As if to replicate a scene from a Hollywood movie representing as 'Capital under Siege by PM Narinder Modi'. These violent scenes on farmers by the Indian Police, RSS goons in Police and Army uniform were shown on many Media channels and social media sites, but yet still the government refused to take action. News channels like ZEE News, Republic Bharat, Aaj Tak, Times Now, Republic TV, India Today, ABP News, Sudarshan News and India TV whom are owned by the Hindu led co-operations and biased towards the Modi government narrated these peaceful protests as farmers being separatists, fundamentalist, illiterates, and terrorist. They portrayed farmers in the negative light by broadcasting fake news 24/7.

However, the peaceful farmers blocked these media channels by naming them 'Godi Media' i.e sold out media of PM Modi. The farmers showed their peaceful, kind and vibrant nature of helping others, also setting a mile stone in winning the hearts and mind of the capital residents. Soon they roared via social media, highlighting the farmers as peaceful, kind, and of helpful nature. The social media intervention led to truth about the PM Modi, showing his best interest rely only with the wealthy co-operations undermining the majority of his country's farmer, labourers & Working class population.

This also led countries around the world to condemn PM Modi's harsh approach on the Peaceful farmers protest. Countries like Canada, Italy, UK, Portugal, Spain, wrote to Indian Ministers. Indian government ignored these pleas and mocked the Canadian Prime minister. To win the silence of other countries, the Indian government offered trade deals over this crucial matter, but this did not stop the ordinary people to raise their voice and highlight the issues that the democracy is under threat in India.

Audiences around the world started asking crucial questions to the world leaders why they were silent over what is the largest protest in Human history and why the mainstream news channels like BBC, CNN, and others are not giving full coverage to this protest.

It is proven now by far that Indian democracy is fake. The Law makers, the judges and even the India Supreme court and the Indian-Media is fully corrupt and can be purchased by few wealthiest co-operations or the politicians whom are on payroll for the interest of these co-operations. This does not end here, The law enforcers like police and the army too has been sold out and is acting as a puppet like their country's leaders- Narinder Modi (Prime Minister of India), Amit Shah (Home Affair Minister of India), Narender Tomar (Agricultural minister of India) and Rajnath Sing (the defence Minister). Here even the far

right Hindu organisation which is labelled as terrorist organisation has been allowed to create violence by infiltrating the protest sites and by attacking the peaceful protesters while being in full view of the Delhi police. Serious questions can be raised as PM Modi is also a member of this RSS group and many of his current government ministers too.

The entire democratic system of India has been corrupted. Recently the whats app chat between Arnab Goswami, the news broadcaster for republic TV and Republic Bharat shown some serious conversation which are suggesting that even the Pulbama Attack in India was also an orchestrated act by the Indian Government to tarnish the image of Pakistan on international platform and to gain Votes to BJP (current Ruling party in India) to win election.

Currently The Indian government is using the same tactics as were used in Gujrat riots by sending RSS Goons to attack the farmers on the protesting sites across Delhi borders. They have been violent, abusive and throwing petrol bombs on the peaceful protesters to turn this peaceful protest into violent and to meet the narrative of PM Modi. Its Media is showing Farmers breaking law and order and being violent where Farmers have kept their stand as being peaceful and not to be aggravated by such RSS and BJP fanatics. It is well over 3months and still the protest continues and increasing by far in numbers.

The protests in India is all about the farmers coming together from all over the India. However, only the Sikh farmers have been targeted by the Delhi police labelling them as Terrorists which has led to Sikh farmers being brutally beaten, arrested, tortured and imprisoned on false charge sheets and allegations. It clearly shows that in this protest there is not only one religion participating but everyone has come together whether their Hindu's, Christians, Muslims or even atheist. The government and the media have misinterpreted that the Sikh flag raised across Delhi & at the Red Fort is now a symbol of threat to nation and separatism where The same flag has been included on the Indian army trucks and check posts near the Indian-China borders. Nishan sahib flag (Sikh Flag) is a marker of equality & freedom, it also symbolises justice and prevalence of truth.

Sikhs are known for humanity, kindness, pride and valour. Sikhs around the world have represented as universal saint soldiers who come forward to defend democracy,

righteousness and to help poor & needy. They have also shown that the humanity can prevail through sharing and caring for other through their langar sewa (free kitchen for all). Sikh values are to share 10% of their income towards a charitable cause. Sikhs also have highlighted through their entrepreneur skills that the worlds wealth should be diversified and shared by many but not to be controlled by few wealthiest who dictate our today's politician who merely act as a leader.
