

- ♦ promote adolescent health policies and the strengthening of reproductive health education and counselling services; undertake a comprehensive and multi-disciplinary study to understand the scope of adolescent health problems, especially early pregnancies; and undertake further efforts, both financial and human, to develop child-friendly care and rehabilitation facilities for adolescents and their families;
- ♦ develop early identification programmes to prevent disabilities, implement alternatives to the institutionalization of disabled children, envisage awareness-raising campaigns to reduce discrimination against disabled children, establish special education programmes and centres for disabled children, and encourage their inclusion into society;
- ♦ undertake all appropriate measures to accelerate the full implementation of the compulsory education system, and to improve the access to education of the most vulnerable groups of children;
- ♦ consider acceding to ILO Convention No. 138 regarding minimum age for access to work; undertake efforts to prevent and combat economic exploitation, or any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education; pay particular attention to the conditions of children working within their families, in order to protect them fully;
- ♦ strengthen efforts to prevent and combat drug and substance abuse among children, and support rehabilitation programmes for child victims of such abuse;
- ♦ take further measures to prevent and combat sexual economic exploitation of children, including the use of children in prostitution and pornography and the trafficking and abduction of children; make further efforts to establish rehabilitation centres for child victims of ill-treatment, sexual abuse and economic exploitation; and
- ♦ review provisions in law governing legal counselling for children in care centres who are in conflict with the law, ensure that detention is used only as a measure of last resort, and take steps to improve conditions in detention centres; raise the minimum age for criminal responsibility, and raise to 18 years the age of persons considered under the juvenile justice system.



INDIA

Date of admission to UN: 30 October 1945.

TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

Land and People: India has not provided a core document for use by the treaty bodies.

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Acceded: 10 April 1979.

India's second periodic report was due 30 June 1991; the third periodic report was due 30 June 1996.

Reservations and Declarations: Articles 1, 4 and 8; article 7 (c).

Civil and Political Rights

Acceded: 10 April 1979.

India's fourth periodic report was due 9 July 1995; the fifth periodic report is due 31 December 2001.

Reservations and Declarations: Articles 1, 9 and 13; paragraph 3 of article 12; paragraph 3 of article 19; articles 21 and article 22.

The Committee expressed concern about a number of subjects. It was noted, for example, that international treaties are not self-executing in India. The Committee recommended that steps be taken to incorporate fully the provisions of the Covenant into domestic law, so that individuals may invoke them directly before the courts. The Committee also recommended that consideration be given by the authorities to ratifying the Optional Protocol to the Covenant. The Committee, noting India's reservations and declarations to six articles of the Covenant, invited the government to review them with a view to withdrawing them.

Racial Discrimination

Signed: 2 March 1967; ratified: 3 December 1968.

India's 15th periodic report is due 4 January 1998.

Reservations and Declarations: Article 22.

Discrimination against Women

Signed: 30 July 1980; ratified: 9 July 1993.

India's initial and second periodic reports were due 8 August 1998.

Reservations and Declarations: Articles 5 (a), 16 (1), 16 (2) and paragraph 1 of article 29.

Torture

Signed: 14 October 1997.

Rights of the Child

Acceded: 11 December 1992.

India's initial report (CRC/C/28/Add.10) is pending for consideration at the Committee's September 1999 session; the second periodic report is due 10 January 2000.

Reservations and Declarations: Article 32.