

ISO 26000 Paragraph on Caste Discrimination

Caste discrimination has now been highlighted by the widely recognised standard - the ISO 26000 on social responsibility.

The International Standard ISO 26000:2010, *Guidance on social responsibility*, provides harmonized, globally relevant guidance for private and public sector organizations of all types based on international consensus among expert representatives of the main stakeholder groups, and so encourage the implementation of best practice in social responsibility worldwide. (ISO 26000 website – www.iso.org)

The following paragraph is included in the ISO 26000 standard:

“Hundreds of millions of people are discriminated against because of their hereditary status or descent. This form of discrimination is based on a history of rights abuse justified by the wrongful notion that some people are considered unclean or less worthy because of the group into which they are born. An organization should avoid such practices and, where feasible, seek to contribute to eliminating these prejudices.”