

**References to Caste-Based Discrimination in the Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) review of the [consolidated third and fourth periodic reports of India](#)**

IDSN June 2014

<p>CRC Concluding Observations - India</p> <p>June 13 2014</p> <p><a href="#">CRC/C/IND/CO/3-4</a></p>	<p><b>B. General principles (arts. 2, 3, 6 and 12 of the Convention)</b></p> <p><b>Non-discrimination</b></p> <p>The Committee is concerned at the disparity in access to education, health care, safe water and sanitation and other social services and enjoyment of the rights enshrined in the Convention among different groups of children as well as the persisting discrimination against children from <b>Scheduled Castes</b> and Scheduled Tribes, children with disabilities, children with HIV/AIDS as well as asylum-seeking and refugee children.</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the State party:</p> <p>(a) Adopt and implement a comprehensive strategy addressing all forms of discrimination, including multiple forms of discrimination against all categories of children in marginalized and disadvantaged situations, ensure that it has adequate human, financial and technical resources and implement it in collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders and involving all sectors of society so as to facilitate social and cultural change; and</p> <p>(b) Ensure that children who are in marginalized or disadvantaged situations, such as children from <b>Scheduled Castes</b> and Scheduled Tribes, children with disabilities, children with HIV/AIDS and asylum-seeker and refugee children, have access to basic services and enjoy their rights under the Convention. To this end adopt adequate programmes and assess their results.</p> <p><b>F. Disability, basic health and welfare (arts. 6, 18 (para. 3), 23, 24, 26, 27 (paras. 1-3) and 33)</b></p> <p><b>Standard of living</b></p> <p>The Committee is concerned at the high percentage of people living below the poverty line despite the GDP growth in the State party. It is concerned at the prevalence of poverty among children, both in urban and rural areas as well as at the large disparities in the standard of living among children, with children in disadvantaged and marginalized situations being particularly vulnerable.</p> <p>The Committee recommends that the State party to:</p> <p>(b) Take all necessary measures to eliminate urban-rural, social, <b>caste</b> and tribe based disparities in children’s standard of living through, inter alia, social protection and targeted programmes for children and families who are particularly vulnerable to poverty; and</p>
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	<p><b>G. Education, leisure and cultural activities (arts. 28, 29, 30 and 31)</b></p> <p><b>Education, including vocational training and guidance</b></p> <p>2. The Committee welcomes the adoption of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act 2009, as well as at the almost universal enrolment rate of children in Grade 1. However, it is concerned at the high drop-out rates of children, in particular children of <b>Scheduled Castes</b> and Scheduled Tribes, and girls. The Committee is also concerned about the high number of children that are out of school, high dropout rates at grade 5, low numeracy and literacy skills, low quality of education, as well as shortage of qualified teachers and classrooms.</p> <p>The state party:</p> <p>Address various discriminatory practices in the education settings, such as forcing children in marginalized situations to sit at the back of a classroom</p> <p><b>H. Special protection measures (arts. 22, 30, 32-33, 35-36, 37 (b)-(d), 38, 39 and 40)</b></p> <p><b>Children belonging to religious minorities, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes</b></p> <p>The Committee is seriously concerned that despite the State party's initiatives aiming at addressing inequalities and improving living conditions and access to education, health and social services of religious minorities and <b>Scheduled Castes</b> and Scheduled Tribes, many children belonging to these groups continue to be deprived of a number of their rights under the Convention.</p> <p>The Committee urges the State party to strengthen its efforts to ensure that all children irrespective of their religious background, <b>Scheduled Castes</b> or Scheduled Tribes enjoy the whole range of rights enshrined in the Convention.</p> <p><b>III. Main areas of concern and recommendations</b></p> <p><b>General measures of implementation (arts. 4, 42 and 44, para. 6, of the Convention)</b></p> <p><b>The Committee's previous recommendations</b></p> <p>The Committee, while welcoming the State party's efforts to implement the Committee's concluding observations adopted in 2004 on the State party's second periodic report (CRC/C/15/Add.228), notes with regret that some of the recommendations contained therein have not been fully addressed.</p> <p>The Committee urges the State party to take all necessary measures to address those recommendations included in the concluding observations of the second periodic report under the Convention that have not been implemented or insufficiently implemented, particularly those related to</p>
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	non-discrimination, adoption, harmful practices, sexual exploitation, education, health, child labour and the administration of juvenile justice.
<p>CRC-OP on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography Concluding Observations – India 2014</p> <p>June 13 2014</p> <p><a href="#">CRC/C/OPSC/IND/CO/1</a></p>	<p><b>Prevention of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography(art. 9, paras. 1 and 2)</b></p> <p><b>Measures adopted to prevent offences prohibited under the Protocol</b></p> <p>The Committee notes the efforts undertaken by the State party aimed at preventing offences under the Optional Protocol. However, the Committee regrets that preventive measures remain inadequate and fragmentary, in particular in relation to the prevention of child prostitution and child pornography. In particular, the Committee is concerned:</p> <p>That there are inadequate mechanisms in place to detect, identify and monitor children at risk of becoming victims of the offences under the Optional Protocol, such as children from <b>Scheduled Castes</b> and Scheduled Tribes, children deprived of their family environments, children in street situations, children subject to child marriages, and children of sex workers.</p>