

52nd Session of the Human Rights Council

Mr. Devendra Kumar Singh

(Secretary General, NHRC, INDIA)

Interactive dialogue with Special Rapporteur : Housing

Respected Chairperson,

NHRC India compliments the Special Rapporteur for bringing up the issue of climate crisis along with adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living.

Climate changes have an adverse impact on housing, loss of livelihood, loss of farm cattle, trees and other animals. Therefore, a well-devised intervention with a human-centric approach in the housing sector is, essential. It is observed that emerging situations during climate crisis along the coastal line and displacement of settlement due to subsidence of land in mountainous regions, low-lying areas and islands are major concerns. There is a need to respect all forms of nature which includes underground streams, lakes, rivers and also to protect their dignity in their natural form.

The right to residence and settlement is a fundamental right under the Constitution of India. Ministry of Rural Development has taken an ambitious human-centric task to construct 29.2 million houses under Prime Minister Rural Housing Scheme since, 2016. Out of this target, 72% of houses have already been completed, which includes 31% of beneficiaries from communities like Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes. During crisis, Government provides measures for complete resettlement of houses also.

Thank You