



SIDE EVENT TO THE 19TH REGULAR SESSION OF
THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

The situation of Human Rights Defenders in India

WEDNESDAY, 7 MARCH 2012

14H00 TO 16H00

ROOM XXI (21), PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

The adverse situation faced by human rights defenders in India has been highlighted by the UN Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders in her recent report on her 2011 mission to India (A/HRC/19/55/Add.1). The side event, organised after the presentation of the Special Rapporteur's report on India to the Human Rights Council, will bring together leading human rights defenders (HRDs) from across India, who will share vivid accounts of the increasing threats faced by defenders and discuss possible solutions. The Special Rapporteur will also share the main findings of her mission to India (10-21 January 2011).

CHAIR **Mr. Henri Tiphagne** | Working Group on Human Rights in India and the UN
National Working Secretary, Human Rights Defenders Alert – India
Member of OMCT Executive Council (on behalf of the Observatory)

PANELISTS

Visit of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of HRDs to India – Main findings

MS. MARGARET SEKAGGYA | Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders, UN Human Rights Council

Targeted for protecting tribal and labour rights – A personal account

Ms. Shamim Modi | Assistant Professor, Tata Institute of Social Sciences

HRDs in conflict areas – Case studies from North-East India

Mr. Babloo Loitongbam | Director, Human Rights Alert

Q&A (Part I)

HRDs and corporate accountability – Cases from Odisha

Mr. Dharendra Panda | Odisha Development Review Collective

The situation of Dalit HRDs – An overview

Dr. SDJM Prasad | General Secretary, National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR)

Q&A (Part II)

Refreshments will be provided. For further information, please contact:

Ms. Pooja Patel, FORUM-ASIA | Phone: +41 (0)76 787 3928 | Email: pooja@forum-asia.org

*The side event is organised in association with: Human Rights Defenders Alert – India and
The Working Group on Human Rights in India and the UN (WGHR)*