

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 494
ANSWERED ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2023/ MAGHA 17, 1944 (SAKA)
ZERO DRAFT ON NATIONAL ACTION PLAN ON BHR**

QUESTION

494. SHRI PINAKI MISRA:

Will the Minister of CORPORATE AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has endorsed the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights;**
- (b) if so, whether public consultations on the Zero Draft of the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights have been concluded;**
- (c) if so, the details of action taken with regard to these consultations and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (d) whether the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights has been finalised;**
- (e) if so, whether it has been put out in the public domain; and**
- (f) if not, the reasons and proposed deadline therefor?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS

[RAO INDERJIT SINGH]

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. India has endorsed the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGP – BHR). To implement the same, every country is required to prepare a National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights (NAP-BHR) which is a policy strategy developed to protect against adverse human rights impacts by business enterprises in conformity with the United Nations Guiding Principles (UNGPs). The United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in June 2014 called upon the Member States to develop a National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights (NAP-BHR) to promote effective implementation of the UNGPs.

As a reflection of India's commitment to the NAP development process, a Zero Draft of NAP was prepared after carrying out the consultations with relevant stakeholders and the comments received from these consultations were considered while preparing zero draft. The Zero Draft of NAP-BHR was released in December, 2018.

(d) to (f): On the basis of said Zero Draft, NAP-BHR has been developed. While developing NAP-BHR, this Ministry has adopted a multi-stakeholders consultation approach. A series of consultations were held with Central Government Ministries/Departments, State Governments, Business Chambers, Civil Society Organizations, Academia, Experts and Practitioners. Further, a Consultation Template on NAP-BHR was also shared on the Ministry's website to invite comments from the general public. NAP-BHR is to serve as a living policy document which will support the protection and promotion of human rights in conformity with the UNGPs. It broadly encapsulates the prevalent statutory framework including policies, rules and regulations to address the Business and Human Rights issues.
