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Title: Regarding situation arising out of unrest in Nepal caused by Madhesis and Tharus agitation in protest against new Nepali Constitution.

PROF. SAUGATA ROY (DUM DUM): The situation on Indo-Nepal border which covers five Indian States, Sikkim, West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand is causing concern. Nepal promulgated a new constitution on September 20, 2015. This promulgation was met by protest from certain ethnic groups including Madhesis and Tharus belonging to Terai Region of Southern Nepal. Since September various entry exit points on Indo-Nepal border had been blocked due to the unrest and protest by these groups. This has affected supply of fuel, food and medicines in Nepal. The Government of India has expressed concern over the protest. The main reason for protest by Madhesis who have social, cultural and religious links with India living across the border are as under .

- (1) Dilution of political representation;
- (2) Discrimination in context of citizenship; and
- (3) Provincial Boundaries.

India has recommended to the UNHRC in November, 2015 that Government of Nepal should accommodate all sections in the constitution building process. We must step up our diplomatic efforts so that Government of Nepal comes around and peace is restored.