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STATEMENT

BY

H.E. MR. AJAI MALHOTRA AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY AND ACTING PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF INDIA

on

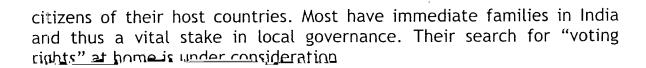
Agenda Item 4:

Mr. Chairman,

We congratulate you and other members of the Bureau of the 39th Session of the Commission on Population and Development and assure you of India's support in your conduct of the proceedings of this Commission. My delegation would also like to convey its appreciation to the outgoing Bureau for guiding the preparations for this meeting. We thank the Secretary-General for the useful reports prepared for the 39th Session of this Commission.

Mr. Chairman, Migration has always been an indispensable ingredient of the human all migration dynamic has rapidly become

	whether for permanent or shorter term migration. Indian migrants have
	training distant lands in search of a livelihood or knowledge
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	skills, and professional opportunities. India recognizes that migration offers opportunities for our nationals and benefits to our country. We
	believe that 'brain drain' as a result of migration of skilled and highly
	trained people can be translated into an overall gain. In our estimation,
	we have successfully managed to do so. The Report of the Secretary- General acknowledges that India has experienced large-scale emigration
	of workers in information_technologies and vet been able to replace
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Mr. Chairman,

Recorded remittance inflows into India have increased impressively in recent years, growing from US\$13 billion in 2001 to US\$ 21.7 billion in 2005. This surge in remittances to India, particularly following the information technology revolution in the 1990s, has made India the highest remittance receiving country in the world. Initiatives are being taken to facilitate remittance flows and promote transfers through formal channels. Greater use of formal channels for remittance transfers has been aided by factors such as institution of a market-determined exchange rate, current account convertibility, and increased availability of speedier and cost effective money transfer arrangements. We are