The Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary General of the United Nations, and with reference to the circular CLCS.16.2008.LOS (Continental Shelf Notification) dated December 23, 2008, concerning Myanmar’s submission to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (“the Commission”) on 16 December 2008, have the honor to state that Article II of the “Agreement between the Republic of India and the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma on the Delimitation of Maritime Boundary in the Andaman Sea, in the Coco Channel and in the Bay of Bengal, signed on 23 December 1986” expressly provides that the extension of the maritime boundary beyond point 16 in the Bay of Bengal will be done subsequently. This has not so far been done.

Accordingly, Myanmar’s submission for an extended continental shelf is without prejudice to the question of delimitation of the continental shelf between India and Myanmar, which is to be settled by mutual agreement in accordance with Article 83 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982.

The Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations has the honor further to state that Myanmar has not provided any basis as to its entitlement to invoke the Statement of Understanding in Annex II of the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea. Without making any judgment on Myanmar’s interpretation and application of the Statement of Understanding, India considers that the said Statement is applicable only to Sri Lanka and India.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of India to the United Nations avails of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary General of the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.

Secretary General
of the United Nations,
New York.
(Attn: Division for Ocean Affairs
and Law of the Sea)