

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3270

ANSWERED ON:04.02.2004

CHILD MARRIAGE

BHASKAR RAO PATIL;GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI;MINATI SEN

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether that despite the worldwide trend towards late marriages, India finds itself among the countries where a majority of girls still marry before they are eighteen;
- (b) if so, whether according to the State of World Population 2003, released by the UN Population Fund worldwide, eighty-two million girls in developing countries between ten and seventeen years marry before their eighteen birthday;
- (c) if so, the salient features of the report;
- (d) whether the Centre has considered this report; and
- (e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken on the recommendations made by it?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JAS KAUR MEENA)

- (a): No official figures are available regarding child marriages in India since the registration of marriages is not compulsory in the country.
- (b),(c) (d) & (e): Does not arise.