

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2795

ANSWERED ON:12.12.2006

UNICEF REPORT ON SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN

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Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any study on violence against children by UNICEF has found a disturbing trend that girls are more prone to sexual violence while boys were susceptible to physical violence, especially involving weapons;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has studied the report of UNICEF;
- (d) if so, the response of the Government thereto;
- (e) whether study also found that some groups or categories of children were more vulnerable than others; and
- (f) the steps taken by the Government to safeguard the interest of children in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

(a)&(b) UNICEF has not conducted any study on violence against children. However, UN Secretary General has got conducted a global study by Mr. Paulo Sergio Pinheiro, an Expert on violence against children. The Report has been released recently which gives the global scenario on the subject. The Report contains the nature and extent of the problem, factors contributing to violence against children, responses to violence in different settings and recommendations for its prevention. The Report also states that the girls suffer more sexual violence than boys and that they are more vulnerable to violence in many settings while boys are more likely to be the victims of homicide and particularly of violence involving weapons.

(c)&(d) The Report has received requisite attention of the Government for appropriate action.

(e) Children with disabilities and learning difficulties, refugee children and children from indigenous minorities and nomadic communities, orphan children, children affected by HIV/AIDS and girls have been reported as vulnerable to violence.

(f) Children are protected against violence by implementation of various legislations, policies and schemes and programmes such as, provisions of the Indian Penal Code, Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, National Policy for Children, National Charter for Children, Integrated Scheme for Street Children, Integrated Scheme for Juvenile Justice, etc.