

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2214
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2012
EXAMINATION OF RAPE VICTIMS
Jindal Shri Naveen

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the current procedure for examining rape victims;
- (b) whether the Government has noticed the objections being raised from various quarters that the manual examination procedure is archaic and insensitive and causes further trauma to the victims;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to make amendment in the examination process of the rape victims; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD)

(a) to (e): The National Commission for Women drew attention of this Ministry to news report regarding use of "finger test" method by forensic experts and doctors for rape victims and requested to put an end to this method. Accordingly this issue was examined and keeping in view the paramount aim of maintaining the dignity of the victim, the Proforma for "Medical Examination Report for Sexual Assault" was revised by taking inputs from experts in the fields of Gynecology and Forensic Medicine of 3 Central Government Hospitals viz. Safdarjung Hospital, Dr. RML Hospital and Lady Harding Medical College & associated hospitals and a representative from the Union Ministry of Law. Due care has been taken that this Proforma is comprehensive as well as implementable given the usual heavy workload in the Emergency Department of the Government Hospitals. The Proforma was circulated to all the 3 Central Government Hospitals in Delhi and all the State Governments for implementation in the hospitals under their jurisdiction.