GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1359
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2012
CHILD MARRIAGE
Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai

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

(a) whether the Government has held national level consultation to prevent child marriage in the country in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the issues deliberated during the said consultations by various participants; and

(c) the details of issues on which participants have arrived at a consensus to address the issue?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH)

(a) & (b): Yes Madam, a National Consultation on Prevention of Child Marriage was organized by the Ministry on 25th May 2012 in New Delhi, where representatives from concerned Ministries/Departments of Government of India, State Governments, Officers of District Administrations, Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) and other institutions participated and deliberated on various issues concerning child marriage. The discussions were predominantly on legislative and implementation aspects of Prohibition of Child Marriage Act (PCMA) 2006 and other related laws. Various initiatives taken by the State Governments and NGOs to prevent child marriage were also discussed.

(c): It was agreed in the consultation that Information, Education and Communication (IEC) measures and advocacy particularly in the vulnerable areas as could be identified through a mapping process was the way forward for addressing social attitude. Convergence between various Central Departments and Ministries on the importance of coordinated inter- Departmental action for effective implementation of the relevant schemes and programmes of the Centre and State Government on child marriage was also emphasized. With regard to the legal aspect, the need to strengthen the implementation framework and the machinery of Prohibition of Child Marriage Act (PCMA) 2006, was emphasized.