

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4671

ANSWERED ON:18.12.2009

ABUSE OF CHILDREN

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

- (a): whether in a first ever global study on violence against children, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has found a disturbing trend that girls were more prone to sexual violence while boys were susceptible to physical violence, especially involving weapons;
- (b): if so, whether study also found that some groups or categories of children were more vulnerable than others;
- (c): whether the Union Government has received any report in this regard;
- (d): if so, the response of the Government thereto; and
- (e): the messages taken by the Union Government to safeguard the interests of children in the country?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): A global study was conducted by the United Nations on all forms of violence against children. The study used an analytical framework based on the environment or setting in which childhood is spent, namely, home and family, care and justice system, workplaces and the community. The findings of the study indicate that girls face greater risk of sexual violence while boys are at greater risk of physical violence.

(c), (d) & (e): The Government is aware of the above study. Issues related to children are being addressed by the Government through policies, legislations, plans, schemes and programmes which include National Policy on Children 1974, National Charter for Children 2003, Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2000 and its amendment in 2006, Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986, National Plan of Action for Children 2005, Integrated Child Protection Scheme, Scheme for Working Children, etc. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, a statutory body set up in March 2007, also inquires into the complaints of violation of child rights.