

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (c) Taking cognizance of the news-item published in Hindu Daily News paper dated 8th January, 2012 "Vrindavan widows are denied dignity even in death", the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India had requested the State Government of U.P. to enquire about the matter and also verify the credentials of the organizations who are running the shelter homes. The Government of Uttar Pradesh conducted the enquiry and informed that no such fact came to the notice during the enquiry and the article of the newspaper seemed to be biased and baseless.

Prevention of child marriage

765. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in our country some States have legislation to prevent child marriage; and

(b) whether the law to discourage child marriage can be used for preventing helpless divorced women to get the civil service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) The Government has enacted the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act (PCMA) 2006, which extends to all the States and Union Territories of India except the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The Act also applies to all citizens of India without and beyond India.

(b) Under PCMA 2006, every child marriage is voidable at the option of the contracting party who was a child at the time of the marriage, within two years of the child attaining majority. Entry to civil services is open to all men and women of eligible age and qualification irrespective of their marital status.

Improvement of condition of women

766. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the targets enunciated in the Eleventh Five Year Plan regarding improvement of condition of women;

(b) to what extent they have been achieved; and

(c) the areas where women have achieved equality with men in wages, working conditions and decision making during this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (c) The Eleventh Plan recognised women as change agents and envisioned inclusive growth and advocated

ending the exclusion and discrimination faced by women. To integrate the gender prospective into the budgeting process, a scheme on gender budgeting was also introduced. Path-breaking legislations like Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 and Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act, 2005 were enacted during the Eleventh Plan.

The monitorable targets for Women's Agency and Child Rights for the Eleventh Five Year Plan and current status are as under:—

Sl. No.	Indicators	Targets for the Eleventh Five Year Plan	
		Target	Achievement
1	2	3	4
1.	Reducing Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) per 1000 live births	28	47*
2.	Reducing Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) per 1000 live births	1	2.12**
3.	Reducing Total Fertility Rate (TFR)	2.1	2.5\$
4.	Reducing anaemia among women and girls (15-49) years	Half its present level <i>i.e.</i> 28.05 #1	NA
5.	Reducing Malnutrition among children of age group (0-3) — Current level of weight for age below-2SD	Half its present level <i>i.e.</i> 20.2 #2	NA
6.	Raising the sex ratio for age group (0-6) years	935	914##
7.	Providing clean drinking water for all by 200g and ensuring no slip-back	100%.	70.16% @
8.	Ensure direct and indirect beneficiaries of Government schemes are women	33%	Sex disaggregated data is not available for all schemes but schemes such as MNREGA have almost 50% women beneficiaries.

1	2	3	4
9.	Reduce dropout rate for primary and secondary schooling for both and girls.	10%	For Girls: Primary: 35%, Secondary: 41%. Gender gap in literacy reduced. ***

Source:

- * SRS Bulletin, December, 2011 (RGI).
- ** Special Bulletin on Maternal Mortality in India (Special Survey of deaths) 2007-08.
- \$ SRS Statistical Report, 2010.
- #1 NFHS-3 (2005-06), (As per NFHS-# (2005-06) anemia among women and girls (15-49) years was 56.1% and Half = 28.05%).
- #2 NFHS-3 (2005-06). As per NFHS-3 (2005-06) Malnutrition among children of age group (0-3) years was 40.4% and Half = 20.2%.
- ## Census, 2011.
- @ (Achievement as on 1.04.2012). Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation
- *** (National Rural Drinking Water Programme), (<http://www.ddws.gov.in>).
- NA Not Available.
- *** Selected Educational Statistics (SES)-2010.

Decreasing the ratio of women

767. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the ratio of women has been decreased in several States;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Ministry to address this issue; and
- (d) whether female foeticide has been increased during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) and (b) According to Census of India 2011 ratio of females per thousand males improved from 933 at all India level in 2001 to 940 in 2011. However, the ratio of girl children in the age group of 0-6 years (child sex ratio) declined from 927 in 2001 to 914 in 2011. Details of Sex ratio and child sex ratio, State-wise, are given in Statement (*See below*).