



RECEIVED

21 MAY 2018

SECRETARY GENERAL
TO PARLIAMENT

Minister for Defence and National Security

Honourable Ratu Inoke Kubuabola

**Response to Unanswered Supplementary Parliamentary
Question 180/2018 on Tuesday 15 May 2018;
Hon Semesa Karavaki asked;**

Whether the Hon Minister has the information on the percentage of violence against women and children that occur in the home setting and what the Police department is doing about it in its cooperation with other stakeholders, to ensure that that is minimised, and also to assist the police officers in not using a lot of resources in that respect?

Parliament of Fiji
GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, SUVA.

17 May 2018

Answer:

The recent statistics on reported cases of domestic violence against women and children in Fiji captured by the Fiji Police Statistics Unit revealed a total of 908 cases that were reported and registered in the year 2017. Out of these reported cases, 777 were Women victims and 131 were Child victims.

Further analysis revealed that of the Women victims, 62% were committed in the home setting and were mainly cases of Assault and related offences. Of the Child victims, 26% were violated in their home setting and included cases of Rape and Assault & related offences.

The Fiji Police is continually strengthening its regulatory platforms for compliance to our international obligations on CEDAW, likewise, we are partnering with our other stakeholders, such as Judiciary, Corrections, Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, Non-governmental organisations (NGO's) and Faith-based organisations in enhancing our responses and investigative capabilities.

Furthermore, Fiji Police also has collaborative networks with many agencies and forums to address the concerns of Domestic Violence in Fiji. This extends towards enforcement, advocacy, women empowerment, awareness, prevention, gender equality, child safety to name a few.

Other FPF internal strategies and initiatives include:

- i. DUAVATA Concept implementation through village and school visitations, awareness, *tikina* meetings, victim support, etc.
- ii. Advocating the Community Policing approach through the *five pillars* of Sports, Music, Religion (Faith-based), Vanua and Youth.
- iii. Advocating passionately and encouraging the participation of women through *Police Wives/Mothers Club* and the Fiji Police Women's Network
- iv. Increase in media awareness (e.g. Crime Stoppers, Talk back shows, brochures, Newspaper publications, media releases).
- v. Strengthening investigation capabilities
- vi. Smart Visibility Patrols on Hotspots/Red Zones
- vii. Attending workshops and training organised by FWCC in partnership with UNDP or other relevant organisations on ending violence against women and children
- viii. Stringent execution of the *No Drop Policy* and *Zero Tolerance Policy on Gender Based Violence*
- ix. Enforcement of Domestic Violence Restraining Order (DVRO)
- x. In partnership with the Social Welfare in the '*Loloma Project*' [Child Begging/Labor]
- xi. Fiji Police has empowered the Sexual Offences Unit and Juvenile Bureau to streamline women, and child related GVB investigations through dedicated and well trained women officers

The Fiji Police anticipates with interest the development and enactment of the Sexual Offenders Registration Bill which shall further empower the organisation in the enforcement and creation of a safer society for our women and children.
