

Speech of Hon'ble Governor of Jharkhand on the occasion of release of UNICEF's annual flagship report- 'The State of the World's Children' on 28 June, 2016-

Today, I am delighted to release UNICEF's annual flagship report-'The State of the World's Children'- Every child born on planet earth has a right to live healthy and protected.

I think this report plays a vital role to bridge the gap which emerges between children- who have the least facilities and those who have the most, because of their social inequalities. This affects their right to survival, health, education and nutrition.

The report reveals that on an average each additional year of education helps the children to increase their earnings by 10% and for each additional year of schooling completed by children in a country, the poverty rates fall by 9 percent. So investing in the most vulnerable children can yield immediate and long term benefits. For example scheme like Mukhya-Mantri Ladli Laxmi Yojana (MLLY), help the children to stay in school for longer and continue their education to higher level.

As we all know, uneven access to education and learning, always results into a low skilled, poorly paid and insecure employment. After 15 years when this new work-force will enter the labour market- equipped with education, skill and technology, the scenario and level of development will be different. Investment in education in early years especially among the most deprived and marginalized is crucial to promote equity and learning in the long term. This is what the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Sri Narendra Modi Ji has always been emphasizing.

I would like to congratulate the UNICEF for this publication which refocuses our attention on equity around Child Rights. I hope UNICEF and all other stake-holders, with the support of the State Government, each child in Jharkhand will get a fair chance to learn, groom and prosper.

**Jai Hind!      Jai Jharkhand!**