



# UNPOL

## Flash

### INDIAN FORMED POLICE UNIT-2

## SENSITISED ON SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE

*The zero-tolerance policy of the Secretary General of the United Nations on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse is steadily but surely gaining grounds in the Police Component of MONUSCO through a meticulous and no nonsense approach put in place by the Police Commissioner, General Pascal CHAMPION, whose first phase consists in a thorough sensitisation of Individual Police Officers and Formed Police Units Contingent members.*

In compliance with the instructions of MONUSCO Police Commissioner relayed to all Formed Police Units (FPU) operating in the Democratic Republic of Congo by the FPU coordination office based in Goma, the Indian Formed Police Unit-2 located in Beni on 9th September 2015, embarked on an awareness campaign among the troops on the all-important issue of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse. Instantly a meeting of the command staff and Medical officers was convened and chaired by the Contingent commander, Colonel DUBEY YUVRAJ. In the meeting, the contingent leadership reiterated their commitment to continue the fight against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) by ensuring compliance with the instructions on SEA issued by the United Nations Headquarters and the Mission leadership. He went on to announce a series of measures that have been taken in conjunction with his command staff to ensure that all directives from MONUSCO Police Headquarters are complied with.

All available police officers were assembled and briefed about the importance of adhering to the related instructions to uphold not only the sacrosanct directives of the United Nations on SEA, but also the good image of the Police Component of MONUSCO and the good reputation of the contingent and its country. Officers who were out on operational duties were briefed accordingly upon their return. Consequences of their violation were also brought out and explained to them both in terms of medical problems as well as disciplinary and even judicial action. A list of all the personnel who were briefed was prepared and signed voluntarily by participants as proof that such briefing was held.

Furthermore, and within the same scope, the 10 commandments/rules relating to the code of conduct of the Blue



helmets were translated in Hindi (the Indian language) and each police officer given a copy thereof. Enlarged copies of the translated version were pasted at common places of assembly such as recreation room, dining hall, communication center, Gymnasium etc, so that they can catch the sights of the troops as often as possible. Moreover, these rules were also written in bold letters on container outer walls in the camp for easy visibility from a distance and reminder to the troops as well.

It would be recalled that this subject has always been given the importance it deserves by the contingent ever since its deployment in Beni, through regular monthly briefings by the contingent commander not only on SEA, but also on the Rules of Engagement, Use of Force, Self-defense and defense of others etc. This approach has yielded huge dividends in terms of good reputation amongst the population and a highly appreciable operational capacity of the Indian Formed Police Unit contingent.