

#### **Discrimination against tribals in schools**

2302. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that tribal students are a discriminated lot in schools, which is affecting their education;
- (b) whether Government is also aware that they are often used as servants;
- (c) which are the schools where tribal students are discriminated against, State-wise; and
- (d) whether Government is considering to take necessary steps so that tribal students can get education like other students and action is taken against the teachers who use them as servants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (DR. RAMESHWAR ORAON):

- (a) and (b) No such complaint has been received in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- (c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### **Legal and financial assistance to women**

2303. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to provide legal and financial assistance to women who have been deserted by their NRI husbands in foreign countries and ensure their rehabilitation and repatriation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry had a discussion with the Ministry of Overseas Affairs on the subject; and
- (d) if so, the further reaction of both the Ministries on the subject?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs had introduced a scheme to provide legal/financial assistance to Indian women deserted by their overseas Indian spouses. The assistance will be provided to Indian women who are victims of fraudulent marriages and deserted by their overseas Indian husbands or are facing divorce proceedings in a foreign country. The scheme has been launched in USA, UK, Australia, New Zealand and Gulf where several such cases are being reported.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A Ministerial Sub-Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs and having representatives from various central Ministries including the Ministry of Women and Child Development and State Governments was constituted to study the problems faced by Indian women deserted by their overseas Indian spouses and give recommendations. The important recommendations of the sub-committee are as under:-

- All marriages solemnized in India should be compulsorily registered.