

[4 December, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

(2) All village officers and such other officers as may be specified by the Collector or the District Magistrate in relation to any area and the inhabitants of such area shall, if they have reason to believe or have the knowledge that sati is about to be, or has been, committed in the area shall forthwith report such fact to the nearest police station.

(3) Whoever contravenes the provision of sub-section (1) or subsection (2) shall be punishable with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to two years and shall also be liable to fine.

In view of the above, no need is felt for separate guidelines to be issued.

### **Change in CBSE curricula**

\*170. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the CBSE has added courses, changed the curricula and have announced other changes frequently;

(b) whether CBSE consults experts before making major changes;

(c) whether it is a fact that despite a number of representations the - CBSE has not been able to modernise and make efficient the issue of marks certificates and other documents; and

(d) what external advice will be sought by the CBSE to effect changes in its own administrative role and duties?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has changed the curricula based on National Curriculum Framework (NCF), 2005 formulated by NCERT. CBSE introduces new subjects to meet the emerging needs of the students. It also takes new initiatives and makes necessary changes from time to time to improve the quality of education, and to reduce stress on students.

(b) CBSE has an established system for consulting experts before initiating major changes. Several Committees of the Board have experts as members to provide valuable inputs.

(c) No, Sir. CBSE has computerised processing of examination data, and printing of mark-sheets and passing certificates.

(d) CBSE seeks external advice on administrative, academic and examination related issues from time to time.

**Categories of persons treated as disabled**

\*171. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the categories of persons treated as 'disabled' for the purpose of education and employment;

(b) whether the quota for the disabled is being filled up regularly; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the percentage of quota for the disabled in view of the increasing number of people with various kinds of disabilities?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) As per the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, a person with disability means a person suffering from not less than 40% of any disability, certified by a medical authority.

For the purpose of employment, reservation is provided to the following categories of persons with disabilities, in the posts identified for each disability:—

(i) blindness or low vision;

(ii) hearing impairment;

(iii) locomotor disability or cerebral palsy.

For educational purposes, in addition to the above three categories, leprosy cured, mentally ill and mentally retarded persons with disabilities are provided reservation in educational institutions run by or receiving aid from the Government.

(b) The responsibility of filling up of the quota is of concerned organisation/institution. In case of any default, Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, appointed under the Act, takes remedial action, *suo-moto* or on the request of a person with disability.

(c) No, Sir.