

(b) The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has introduced the subject of Disaster Management course as a part of frontline curriculum in Social Science from class VIII to X.

(c) Yes, Sir. The CBSE has already taken several steps to de-stress the process of learning in schools.

(d) Does not arise.

Duplicate NCERT books

2688. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to media report regarding duplicating NCERT books;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that this business of printing-duplicate NCERT books was going on for the last three years;

(d) if so, the reasons for which this fraud could not come to the notice of NCERT early; and

(e) the measures taken to check such fraud in future and make the public aware of such frauds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The NCERT has intimated that a raid was conducted by its officials along with the local police on a 'Binding House' in the Naraina village of New Delhi on the basis of information provided by the police. Large quantities of pirated NCERT text books and pirated forms were seized. An FIR was lodged and the culprits were arrested.

(c) and (d) Whenever, any case of piracy of NCERT books comes to the notice of the NCERT through the clues provided either by any individual informer or by the Crime Branch of the police, immediate action is taken to book the culprits with the help of the area police.

(e) The NCERT is now using watermark paper (insignia of NCERT watermarked) as security measures of identification of genuine books.

[19 April, 2005]

RAJYA SABHA

The intimation of this effect is being given on the imprint page of each textbook. A message to this effect has also been publicised through various media.

Child marriages

2689. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Census 2001 has revealed that 6.4 million Indian under the age of 18 are already married and that taking into account the legal marriageable age (18 for females and 21 for males) 11.8 million (4.9 million females and 6.9 million males) married underage;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken a serious note about the child marriages in various parts of the country;

(c) if so, the measures taken or proposed to be taken to stop child marriages;

(d) whether it is proposed to take stringent action against the officials who fail to prevent child marriages; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government has taken several steps to eliminate child marriages from the country. Such as,

- * State Governments have been asked for strict implementation of Child Marriage (Restraint) Act, 1929
- * State Government have been asked to take necessary measures to prevent child marriages in their States
- * The proposal for amendment to the Child Marriage (Restraint) Act, 1929 is presently under consideration of the Government which would help in better implementation of the Act.
- * NHRC is also taking steps at its level to address the issue.
- * A strong media campaign is being launched by the Department of