

[22 August, 2005]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) The appointment of specialists as visiting faculty in polytechnics is the concern of the respective States where they operate.

**Hindi Stenography in Mahatma Gandhi International Hindi University**

†2729. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mahatma Gandhi International Hindi University has received a proposal to include Hindi Stenography in its curriculum; and

(b) if so, the date on which this proposal was received and the action taken by the University?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) According to information furnished by the Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Viswavidyalaya, Wardha, no proposal for inclusion of Hindi Stenography in the curriculum has been received by the University.

(b) Does not arise.

**Book of Shorthand and Typing in NIOS**

2730. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NIOS feels that the single book prepared for the subjects of Shorthand and Typewriting is sufficient to achieve the target at Senior Secondary Level;

(b) if not, the reason for which the books approved by the CBSE/ NCERT etc. submitted to the NIOS, have not been recommended to the students or NIOS affiliated vocational institutions; and

(c) the steps NIOS would take to help the students in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) As per information furnished by the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), the Institute develops self-learning material in each subject for its learners based on the curriculum. In Shorthand and Typewriting, the self-learning lessons are printed in a single volume covering complete curriculum which is sufficient for learning all concepts included in the curriculum.

The NIOS develops its own curriculum in all subjects. The study material is developed by team of subject experts in self-learning mode. NIOS does not prescribe the books written by CBSE/NCERT etc.

### **Glorification of Sati**

2731. SHRI R.K. ANAND: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rajasthan Government had brought out a book on the Glorification of Sati violating the provisions of the Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) As per the information made available to the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Women and Child Development, the Government of Rajasthan has denied that the practice of sati has been glorified in its official publication.

### **Education cess for primary education**

2732. DR. P.C. ALEXANDER: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amount has been specifically set apart from out of the education cess fund for financing primary education during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering to utilize the education cess fund for the secondary education sector also; and