

(b) whether Government propose to take steps to review the setting up of student unions in the country;

(c) if so, whether many of the students are involved in protest and engaging in anti-national activities; and

(d) if so, the action taken/to be taken against those students?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) Certain cases in this regard are reported from some Higher Educational Institutions.

(b) Regarding student unions in the country, Ministry of Human Resource Development had constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri J.M. Lyngdoh (Former Chief Election Commissioner) to frame the guidelines on Students' Union Election in College/Universities. The Committee submitted its report on 26th May, 2006. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 22nd September, 2006 directed that the recommendations of the Lyngdoh Committee shall be implemented and followed by all colleges / universities for the student union elections to be held thereafter. UGC had directed all the universities to take necessary steps to ensure strict compliance of the orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court. UGC had made available the recommendations of the committee on their website which is available at <http://www.dbrau.org.in/attachment/LyngdohcommitteeReport.pdf>.

(c) and (d) Universities/ Higher Educational Institutions are statutory autonomous organizations. They are empowered to regulate and enforce discipline among the students by taking such actions as deemed necessary. Students, who are involved in any kind of anti-national activity, lawful action is taken against them. The ministry is sensitive towards this matter.

Degree course on handloom technology in NIFT, Hyderabad

*158. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to introduce a degree course on handloom technology/designing in the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), Hyderabad in Telangana;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c)
There is no such proposal.

Delayed justice delivery in crimes against women

*159. SHRI R.K. SINHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that delayed justice delivery in cases of crime against women is a cause of concern and has been much debated; and

(b) whether Government has taken note of the Disha Act' passed in Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly and whether Government has any plans or proposal to recommend such Legislation in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) Yes, Sir. Expeditious disposal of cases related to crime against the women is a priority of this government. Disposal of cases in courts is within the domain of the judiciary. Government has no role in disposal of cases in courts. The Union Government is committed to speedy disposal of cases and reduction in pendency of cases. The National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms has adopted many strategic initiatives, including improving infrastructure [court halls and residential units] for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts, leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for better justice delivery, filling up of vacant positions of Judges in High Courts and Supreme Court, reduction in pendency through follow up by Arrears Committees at District, High Court and Supreme Court level, emphasis on Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) and initiatives to fast track special type of cases. However, timely disposal of cases in courts also depends on several other factors which, inter-alia, include availability of adequate number of judges, supporting court staff and physical infrastructure, complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stake holders viz. bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants and proper application of rules and procedures to monitor, track and bunch cases for hearing.

The Central Government has enacted The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018 making the punishment for offences like rape more stringent by including death penalty for rape of a girl below the age of 12 years. The Act also, *inter-alia*, mandates