

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5499
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2012
GUARDIANSHIP RIGHTS
Kurup Shri N.Peethambara

Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a working group of the Planning Commission has recommended that mother should be listed as the first official guardian in all official documents;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government feels that this will help redress the official bias against the mother on the guardianship right; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office.
(SHRIV. NARAYANASAMY)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b) to (d): 12th Five Year Plan Working Group on Women's Agency and Empowerment has recommended a review of all laws to make mothers as equal guardian of their children and to recognize that, since, normally it is the mother who primarily looks after the children, she should be listed as the first guardian. It has also recommended review of all regulations and rules to ensure that the mother's signature as a guardian of her children is accepted in all offices, institutions, etc. The Report of the Working Group has been submitted to the Planning Commission for consideration.