The Information Technology Act, 2000

Section 42 - Control of private key

(1) Every subscriber shall exercise reasonable care to retain control ofthe private key corresponding to the public key listed in his Digital Signature Certificate and take all stepsto prevent its disclosure [1]***
(2) If the private key corresponding to the public key listed in the Digital Signature Certificate hasbeen compromised, then, the subscriber shall communicate the same without any delay to the CertifyingAuthority in such manner as may be specified by the regulations.
Explanation.--For the removal of doubts, it is hereby declared that the subscriber shall be liable till hehas informed the Certifying Authority that the private key has been compromised.

1. The words "to a person not authorised to affix the digital signature of the subscriber" omitted by notification No. S.O.1015(E)(w.e.f. 19-9-2002).