

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 679

ANSWERED ON 24.07.2023

National Book Trust

679. SHRI D.K. SURESH:
SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL:
SHRIMATI SUMALATHA AMBAREESH:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that National Book Trust (NBT) is promoting and publishing books in various Indian Languages and if so, the number of books published in each Indian language during the last three years, year-wise and language-wise;
- (b) whether the Government feels that there is need to expand the functions of National Book Trust (NBT) to cover more people of all Indian languages, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to further expand the functions of NBT to cover more people of all age groups in Indian languages and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is aware that there are huge number of posts in NBT lying vacant for the last many years and if so, the details of the posts sanctioned and vacant in NBT, language-wise; and
- (e) whether the Government has taken any steps to fill up of the vacant posts to ensure better functioning of the NBT and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

- (a) Yes, Sir. National Book Trust (NBT), India is an autonomous organization under Ministry of Education, Government of India, established in 1957 to publish and promote books in India and create a culture of reading. The detail of number of the books published in each Indian language during the last three years, year-wise and language-wise are provided at Annexure-I.
- (b) NBT has a regular publishing programme in 14 Indian languages which includes Asamiya, Bangla, Bodo, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Malayalam, Manipuri, Maithili, Marathi, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu and English. NBT has been continuously making efforts to publish in more Indian languages including Tribal languages. In this context 36 languages have been added including Ao Naga, Asuri, Bhojpuri, Bhili, Bhatari, Biho, Birajia, Bhumij, Dhubri, Garhwali, Garo, Gondi, Ho, Halbi, Haryanavi, Himachali, Khadia, Khasi, Kokborok, Konkani, Kuduk, Kumauni, Lepcha, Bhutia, Malto, Malavi, Mising, Mundari, Limboo, Mizo, Newari, Nimari, Magahi, Rajasthani, Tibetan, Santali, among others. As part of NEP implementation Plan, NBT has also started publishing bilingual editions of its books and the same have been published in Hindi-English, English-Telugu, English-Tamil, English-Punjabi, English-Marathi and English-Urdu.

(c) Yes, Sir. The steps taken are provided at Annexure –II.

(d) The details of the posts sanctioned and vacant in National Book Trust, India is as under:

Sanctioned posts	Filled posts	Vacant posts
275 + 15*	153+13*	122+02*

* language-wise posts in editorial section

(e) The Revision of the Recruitment rules to fill up the vacant post is a continuous process.

ANNEXURE AS REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 679 FOR ANSWER ON 24.07.2023 REGARDING NATIONAL BOOK TRUST ASKED BY SHRI D.K. SURESH, SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL AND SHRIMATI SUMALATHA AMBAREESH, HON'BLE MP.

S.no.	Language	Books Published in the year 2019-20	Books Published in the year 2020-21	Books Published in the year 2021-22
1.	Asamiya	13	82	80
2.	Asuri	3	-	3
3.	Bangla	144	44	171
4.	Bhatri	-	-	3
5.	Bhojpuri	-	1	3
6.	Bhumij	2	-	3
7.	Bhutia	1	-	-
8.	Biho	3	-	3
9.	Bilingual	-	20	172
10.	Birajia	3	-	2
11.	Bodo	-	35	6
12.	English	440	673	699
13.	Garo	-	-	6
14.	Gondi	-	-	3
15.	Gujarati	275	88	5
16.	Halbi	-	-	1
17.	Haryanvi	-	28	
18.	Himachali	-	-	1
19.	Hindi	756	854	1235
20.	Ho	7	-	3
21.	Kannada	15	73	67
22.	Kashmiri	-	1	-
23.	Khadiya	6	-	5
24.	Khasi	2	-	6
25.	Kokborok	10	-	-
26.	Konkani	1	-	-
27.	Kudukh	6	-	6
28.	Magahi	-	-	2
29.	Maithili	-	1	4
30.	Malayalam	53	14	33
31.	Malto	-	-	2
32.	Manipuri	-	15	-
33.	Marathi	56	61	44
34.	Mato	2	-	-
35.	Mizo	8	1	-
36.	Mundari	7	-	6
37.	Nepali	-	-	24
38.	Odia	136	202	181
39.	Punjabi	22	61	90
40.	Sanskrit	6	5	1
41.	Santali	-	-	5
42.	Spanish	12	-	-
43.	Tamil	10	40	92
44.	Telugu	9	82	27
45.	Urdu	5	28	9
	Total	2013	2409	3003

ANNEXURE AS REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 679 FOR ANSWER ON 24.07.2023 REGARDING NATIONAL BOOK TRUST ASKED BY SHRI D.K. SURESH, SHRI NALIN KUMAR KATEEL AND SHRIMATI SUMALATHA AMBAREESH, HON'BLE MP.

(a) Books in Tribal Languages

With an objective to promote all Major, Minor and Tribal languages of India, National Book Trust (NBT), India has been bringing out books in various Tribal languages like Asuri, Bhatri, Bhili, Biho, Bhumij, Bhutia, Birajia, Bodo, Garo, Gondi, Ho, Halbi, Khasi, Kokborok, Lepcha, Mizo, Santali, among others. NBT is now bringing out original titles in Tribal languages in an innovative Trilingual format. A set of books in Gondi-Bhatri-Halbi format including *Nana Mua*, *Amur Tihar*, *Bagh Pila –Chendru*, *Bastar Cho Tihar*, *Jane Kiya Naad* are being published.

(b) Knowledge Communication Centres

As a part of the unique concept by National Book Trust, India where Public Reading Spaces are being developed in a new format promoting 360 degree learning for public at large, these Libraries – better known as the Knowledge Communication Centres – provide reading-related infrastructure, created especially at public spaces for all age groups, in order to provide a platform for all those who believe in the idea of Education as a Transformation tool for the society. National Book Trust (NBT), as India has set-up about 15 such centres across the country including Haryana, Karnataka and Puducherry.

(c) Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan

The Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan is a flagship programme of the Government of India, for the promotion of reading habit among school children through the libraries of their respective schools. Under the programme, books in many languages have been published for the school children by NBT. The books are selected by a panel of experts of the respective state governments for school children in their states.

(d) Braille Books

As part of its initiatives to make books easily accessible to the readers with special needs across India, National Book Trust (NBT), India in collaboration with All India Confederation of the Blind (AICB) jointly publishes books in Braille for visually impaired readers. The books are not only being brought out in Hindi and English, but also in other Indian languages like Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi and Tamil languages. So far, over 360 books have been published.

(e) Translation Workshops

In order to cater to the needs of the readers especially children and young readers, and promote Indian languages, National Book Trust (NBT), India is widening its publishing programme through its various activities such as translation workshops.

(f) Books in Sign Language

National Book Trust (NBT), India in association with Indian Sign Language Research & Training Centre (ISLRTC), Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice and Environment has brought out books in sign language for the benefit of people with hearing disability. By converting the prominent publications into sign language, the Trust aspires to fulfill the reading requirements of the hearing impaired with a view to empower this sector. This initiative will introduce them to different authors and genres. As part of this initiative, the titles from NBT-India's Veergatha series have been converted into Indian Sign Language. The e-content for the same was launched by Ms. Pratima Bhoumik, Hon'ble Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment, and Ms. Annapurna Devi, Hon'ble Minister of State for Education on the occasion of International Sign Language Day on 23rd September, 2022.

(g) PM-YUVA (Young Upcoming Versatile Authors) Mentorship Scheme 1.0

The Prime Minister's Young Upcoming Versatile Authors (YUVA) Mentorship Scheme was launched by the Ministry of Education, Government of India with NBT as the Implementing Agency on 29th May, 2021. The Scheme envisaged to promote reading, writing and book culture in the country, and project India and Indian writings globally.

An all-India Contest was organised from 01st June – 31st July 2021 through MyGov and NBT platforms for the authors below 30 years. The Theme of the contest was 'National Movement of India' with 'Unsung Heroes', "Role of Unknown Places in Freedom Movement" etc. as Focus areas. A total of 75 authors were selected and their books have now been published. A consolidated scholarship of Rs. 50,000/- per month for a period of six months per author were paid to 75 select authors under the Mentorship Scheme representing 22 Indian languages including English. In addition to, 10% royalty will also be paid by NBT on publication and sale of the books.

(h) PM-YUVA (Young Upcoming Versatile Authors) Mentorship Scheme 2.0

The Ministry of Education, Government of India, launched YUVA 2.0 - Prime Minister's Scheme for Mentoring Young Authors on 2nd October, 2022. The launch of YUVA 2.0 is in tune with the Prime Minister's vision to encourage the youth to understand and appreciate India's democracy. YUVA 2.0 is a part of India@75 Project (Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav) to bring forth the perspectives of the young generation of writers on the theme 'Democracy (institutions, events, people, constitutional values – past, present, future)' in an innovative and creative manner. This scheme will thus help to develop a stream of writers who can write on a spectrum of subjects to promote Indian heritage, culture, and knowledge system.

(i) MoU with Tribal Research Institute, Ranchi

National Book Trust (NBT), India signed an MoU with Ranchi's Dr. Ram Dayal Munda Tribal Welfare Research Institute, popularly known as Tribal Research Institute (TRI), to preserve three endangered tribal languages by publishing children's pictorial books in those languages. As part of this programme, a three-day workshop was organised at TRI campus in Ranchi in which 15 pictorial books were translated into three tribal languages namely, Sabal, Korwa and Pahariya. Shri Satya Narayan Munda, former Vice-chancellor, Dr. SP Mukherjee University, inaugurated the workshop.

The NBT also regularly organizes books fairs, book exhibitions throughout the country including the Northeastern States. Recently, the Trust successfully organised Gomti Book Fair and Ladakh Book Fair.
