

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3734
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2000
BOOK PROMOTION DEPARTMENT
MOHAMMED SHAHABUDDIN

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the role of "Book Promotion Department" under his Ministry in the promotion of books of Hindi and other Indian languages along with its other activities; and

(b) the details of achievements made by this Department during the last three years ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL)

(a) & (b): The book promotion activities of the Ministry of Human Resource Development are carried out mostly through the National Book Trust, India (NBT) an autonomous organisation set up by the Government with the objects, inter alia, of producing and making available good literature at moderate prices to the public and of making the people book-minded. The NBT organizes book fairs and exhibitions to inculcate reading habits among people, celebrates World Book and Copyright Day and organizes a National Book Week besides publishing books in Hindi and other Indian languages, and also in English. The books published by NBT cover a wide range of subjects to cater to the diverse needs of people including books for children and post-literacy reading material for neo-literates at moderate prices.

Some of the notable achievements during the years 1996- 97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 are as under :-

(i) Publication of 485 Hindi, 80 Assamiya, 44 Bangla, 6 Bhili, 5 Garo, 97 Gujarati, 185 Kannada, 5 Konkani, 57 Malayalam, 66 Marathi, 4 Meitei, 4 Mizo, 1 Nepali, 40 Oriya, 43 Punjabi, 5 Santhali, 46 Tamil, 28 Telugu, and 27 Urdu books .

(ii) Publication of 451 titles in Hindi and other Indian languages for neo-literates.

(iii) Special concession to Indian language participants in the 13th New Delhi World Book Fair.

(iv) Organisation of short term training courses in book publishing .

(v) Organisation of seminars on publishing in Indian languages and publishing for rural readers.

(vi) Organisation of workshops to develop books for neo- literates .

(vii) Participation in Book Fairs and organisation of Pustak Parikramas in different parts of the country.