

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:326
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2005
FREE TEXT BOOKS TO STUDENTS
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to review the distribution of free text books to all the students from class 1 to 8 irrespective of category under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Union Government in this regard

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI)

(a) (b) & (c): The Government of India's guidelines on free text books provided under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan continue to be as follows:

- i) to all girls/SC/ST Children at primary and upper primary levels within an upper ceiling of Rs.150/- per child.
- ii) State Governments to continue to fund free text books being provided from the State budgets.
- iii) In case any State Government is partially subsidizing the cost of text books being supplied to children in elementary classes, then assistance under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan would be restricted to that portion of the cost of the books which is being borne by the children.