

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:504

ANSWERED ON:29.04.2008

NON AVAILABILITY OF NCERT BOOKS

Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan;Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

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

- (a) whether the students are facing difficulties year after year owing to the late publication of NCERT books;
- (b) if so, the reasons for the late printing of those books every year; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure timely availability of books for the students in the current academic session?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

THE STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 504 BY SHRI ADHIR CHOWDHURY AND SHRI S .K. KHARVENTHAN, REGARDING NON AVAILABILITY OF NCERT BOOKS, DUE FOR ANSWER ON THE 29TH APRIL, 2008.

(a) & (b) Based on the new National Curriculum Framework (NCF), 2005 National Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT) prepared new syllabi for all subjects of all classes and accordingly introduced new textbooks in a phased manner. New textbooks for Classes I, III, VI, IX and XI were introduced in the academic session 2006-07 followed by textbooks for Classes II, IV, VII, X and XII in the academic session 2007-08, and those for Classes V and VIII in the current academic session 2008-09. NCERT made available all original editions of new textbooks in the market as per schedule. Certain translated versions were not available at the beginning of the year due to the stringent requirement to maintain quality. A few supplementary readers were also published with some delay, as these were not required to be taught right at the beginning of the year. However, NCERT has hosted all its textbooks on its website www.ncert.nic.in with the facility of free downloading.

(c) NCERT has substantially increased the print orders of its textbooks since 2007-08. NCERT has also evolved a network of 341 wholesale agents for efficient distribution of its textbooks. During the current academic session all the reprint versions of textbooks and most of the titles of new textbooks for Classes V and VIII have already been made available for sale.