

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2183
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2010
PROMOTION OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

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

- (a) whether the Government has received a proposal from National Knowledge Commission to introduce the teaching of English language from Class-I in schools;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to promote the English language in schools?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (d) The National Knowledge Commission, in its letter dated 20th October, 2006 addressed to the Prime Minister, had recommended for introduction of English, along with first language, starting from Class I in schools. National Curriculum Framework (NCF) - 2005 for school education recommends that education at primary level should be imparted through mother tongue. At the same time NCF-2005 has suggested that at the initial stages English may be one of the languages for learning activities that creates the child's awareness of the world. As far as schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education are concerned, English is one of the two compulsory languages to be studied from Class I. Several States have introduced English in Class-I and in some States, it is taught from Class-III or Class-V.