

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:217
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2010
NATIONAL TEXTBOOK COUNCIL
Bajirao Shri Patil Padamsinha

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to establish ``National Textbook Council`` to monitor textbooks used in the schools in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the proposal has not found support amongst the State Governments;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the views expressed by the State Governments; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 217 ASKED BY DR. PADMASINHA BAJIRAO PATIL REGARDING NATIONAL TEXTBOOK COUNCIL, DUE FOR ANSWER ON 24.11.2010.

(a) and (b) A Committee of Central Advisory Board of Education on "Regulatory Mechanism for Textbooks and Parallel Textbooks taught in schools outside Government system" has recommended establishment of "National Textbook Council" to monitor textbooks used in schools in the country so that standard of education could be maintained and the student community should not be exposed to inferior quality of textbooks or undesirable content. A proposal has been circulated among the State Governments and Union Territory (UT) Administrations seeking their opinion.

(c) to (e) Replies have been received from the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttarakhand, West Bengal and Union Territories of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, Delhi, Lakshadweep and Puducherry. A gist of responses of these States /UTs are annexed with the reply. The matter is under consideration at present.