

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2842
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2012
VETTING OF NCERT BOOKS
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has recently decided to set up an institutional mechanism on the lines of the academic councils established in universities who will be the final authority to decide the content of NCERT textbooks;
- (b) if so, whether the State Government, which are trying to remove parts from the NCERT books, would also be checked;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the mechanism adopted by the Government on the vetting of NCERT books would be honored by State Governments also; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) Government of India has constituted a National Monitoring Committee (NMC) in 2005 to oversee the process of syllabus formation and textbooks writing, publication and distribution of NCERT textbooks. Terms of reference of the Committee are:

- (i) to ensure that syllabi and textbooks finalised by the NCERT reflect the values enshrined in the Constitution in the organization of knowledge in all subjects,
- (ii) to ensure that the main thrust of the NCF 2005, i.e. to reduce curricular burden is fully reflected and carried out in the syllabi and textbooks,
- (iii) to ensure that textbooks encourage classroom pedagogy which enables both teachers and children to explore and use other resources of learning,
- (iv) to ensure that all textbooks reflect sensitivity to gender, caste and class parity and the needs in all subjects of children with disability,
- (v) to ensure that environmental education, peace, health issues and work related attitudes and values are infused in all subjects,
- (vi) to ensure that textbooks are free of errors and distortions, and
- (vii) to review the schedule of textbook publication.

The NMC is still continuing and performing the role assigned to it.

(b) to (e) Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution of India. It is for the States' School Education Boards to finalise their own Curriculum and Syllabi. However, some of the School Education Boards have adopted the NCERT text books.