

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3170  
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2012  
AGRICULTURE IN SCHOOL CURRICULUM  
Choudhary Shri Harish;Singh Shri Ijyaraj

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

- (a) whether Agriculture is included as an optional subject in the curriculum at senior secondary level;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor despite India being an agricultural country;
- (c) whether the Government has any intention to review national curriculum framework to include Agriculture as a compulsory subject from class VI to XII;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) & (b) In accordance with the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) – 2005, the syllabi and textbooks developed by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) included the basic concept of 'agriculture' in different subject areas across all stages of the school curriculum, from primary to secondary stage, and as a specific issue at the Higher Secondary stage.

As far as the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) is concerned, all students upto secondary level compulsorily study aspects of agriculture in an integrated way. At senior secondary level, there is no streaming and a student is required to take one language and four elective subjects. Agriculture is offered as one of the elective subjects. The Board also offers Horticulture, a vocational course, for the students at senior secondary level.

(c) to (e) In view of the above, there is no such proposal under consideration as of now.