

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3783
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2013
NATIONAL BOOK PROMOTION POLICY
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has approved the National Book Promotion Policy;
- (b) if so, the details and the salient features of the policy;
- (c) whether the Government has invited suggestions / comments from various sections of the society before finalization of the National Book Promotion Policy;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the extent to which the suggestions / comments received have been incorporated in the said policy;and
- (f) the time by which the National Book Promotion policy will be implemented?

Answer

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

(a) to (d) A twelve member Task Force was constituted by the National Book Promotion Council (NBPC) to draft a comprehensive National Book Promotion Policy (NBPP) in 2010. The draft report of the Task Force was approved by the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) in its 58th meeting held on 7th June, 2011. The salient features of the proposed NBPP aim at promoting books for all segments of the society, so that books are available in plenty and they are accessible to people living in different parts, even the remotest corners, of our country. The NBPP is aware of the technological advances and their impact on the world of books. The policy strives at taking full advantage of the new technology while retaining the time – tested strengths of publishing and distribution of books. Subsequently, the NBPC in its meeting held on 5th January, 2012 suggested that the draft policy should be revised. The MHRD has invited suggestions / comments from the concerned Ministries / Departments of Central Government, State Governments as well as the Central Education Institutions including the National Council for Education Research and Training, the Central Board of Secondary Education and the National Institute of Open schooling, before finalizing the NBPP. Besides this, a draft policy was also placed on the website of the MHRD seeking response from the authors, publishers, civil society organizations, teachers, students, and parents etc.

(e) The Ministry received 38 suggestions / comments from all corners and relevant suggestions have been suitably incorporated in the said policy.

(f) The policy will be finalized after consulting the concerned Ministries on the key issues.