

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1918
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2014
GENDER SENSITIZATION
Thota Shri Narasimham

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

- (a) whether an analysis of the gender content of school textbooks has been carried out by any body including the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it has been found that there are elements in the textbooks of various subjects which reflect gender stereotypes;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to make school textbook gender sensitive?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

- (a) & (b) The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has carried out Gender Analysis of its own Textbooks from the Classes I to V in the domain of Environmental Studies, Mathematics and Languages and Textbooks of two States namely, Uttar Pradesh Elementary Stage textbooks in the domain of Languages of Classes VI to VIII and Madhya Pradesh Textbooks at the Elementary Stage in the domain of Languages and Environmental Studies of Classes VI to VIII.
- (c) Gender Analysis of NCERT textbooks at the Primary Stage of Classes I to V depicts gender inclusiveness in textbooks. While all the textbooks have attempted to highlight gender concerns, there are elements of stereotypes in some textbooks. Gender Analysis of Uttar Pradesh Textbooks reflects attempt on the part of the State to promote gender inclusiveness. Gender Analysis of Madhya Pradesh Textbooks indicate that the English Textbooks depict human values as woven in the content of lessons and the textbooks of Environmental Studies from Class III to V are mainly gender inclusive in both content and visuals.
- (d) & (e) The Ministry of Human Resource Development has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 32.79 Lakh to the NCERT to carry out "Gender review of Hindi, English, Social Studies and Science textbooks of Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Haryana, Rajasthan and Jammu & Kashmir". The NCERT has developed tool for textbooks analysis from a gender perspective to highlight positives and suggest ways of making the lessons Gender Inclusive.