

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6615
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2015
HEAVY SCHOOL BAGS
Singh Shri Ravneet

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the schools all over the country are forcing small children to carry heavy school bags;
- (b) if so, the steps Government is taking to check the said atrocity being meted out to children;
- (c) whether the Government is contemplating on making a uniform policy in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (d): The Central Government has taken various steps to reduce curriculum load on the basis of recommendations of the report "Learning without Burden" of the National Advisory Committee chaired by Prof. Yashpal. The National Curriculum Framework (NCF-2005) brought a shift in the teaching learning paradigm by focusing on child centered; process oriented constructivist approach which discourages memorization and rote learning. Based on this, the National Council of Educational Research and Training has developed revised syllabi and textbooks as also States have revised their syllabi and textbooks accordingly, to reduce the burden on children.