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Title: Regarding certain objectionable content in CBSE Social Science Book for standard VIII prepared by NCERT.

SHRI P.K. BIJU (ALATHUR): Mr. Chairman, thank you. I would like to draw the attention of the House regarding the derogatory references on Sree Narayana Gurudevan appeared in the Standard VIII of CBSE syllabus. The controversial text depicted Guru as a man of condescending attitude towards other religions.

The nugget came from Standard VIII Social Science book of CBSE, prepared in 2008 by the NCERT. The content says: "In what is present day Kerala, a Guru from 'low' caste Ezhavas, Shri Narayana Guru proclaimed the ideals of unity for his people. He advocated equality within one sect, a single caste and one guru. He inspired all of them to have faith in one guru alone and that is he himself."

This is contrary to the fact and aims to distorting the image of Sree Narayana Gurudevan as a social reformer. He led reform movement in Kerala, revolted against casteism and worked on propagating new values of freedom in spirituality and of social equality, thereby transforming the Kerala society.

The content is totally impertinent to the fame of Sree Narayana Gurudevan and his ideology. It is a clear step to replace the Guru as a religious idol and a God man rather than a social reformer. This has happened not only in the case of Gurudevan. Even Bhagat Singh and Dr. Ambedkar have been misquoted in the CBSE text books.

The content amounts to historical revisionism where historical facts are distorted to favouring particular interests.

I urge the Government to take urgent action against those who have distorted the facts and replace the present text books with a new one with accuracy. Thank you.