

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 172
ANSWERED ON 04.12.2023

Introduction of Electoral Literacy in NCERT Textbooks

172. SHRI VIJAYAKUMAR (*ALIAS*) VIJAY VASANTH:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that the National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) will introduce and update textbooks in order to include content on electoral literacy;
- (b) whether it is also true that the NCERT has advised the State Education Boards and other Boards to follow suit;
- (c) whether it is also true that the said measures are part of a Memorandum of Understanding signed between the poll panel and the Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (d) The National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE), 2023 prepared by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) includes the following curricular goals for development of electoral literacy:

- i. CG-5- Understands the Indian Constitution and explores the essence of Indian democracy and the characteristics of a democratic governance (Page 329, NCF-SE 2023)
- ii. CG-8- Understands and appreciates the process of development of the constitution of India and upholds its importance to promote democratic values in Indian Society (Page-327, NCF-SE 2023)

In addition to this, NCERT's present Social Science: Political Science Textbooks, Democratic Politics I for Class IX and Democratic Politics II for Class X includes the content related to voters' education & electoral literacy. Besides, NCERT has recently prepared two modules which are part of recently launched series of Special Course Modules with focus on democratic process and voter's education.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the Ministry of Education and Election Commission of India (ECI) on 02.11.2023 which, inter-alia, provides integration of voter education and electoral literacy in a systematic manner in the curricular framework under NCF for classes 6 to 12 for all schools of the country; introduce/update textbooks of NCERT to incorporate electoral literacy and advise State Education Boards and other Boards to do the same; orient/train teachers in imparting electoral literacy in the classrooms.
