

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 56
ANSWERED ON 22.07.2024

Revision of NCERT Textbook

56 Dr. M P Abdussamad Samadani:

Shri V K Sreekandan:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) is revising school textbooks;
- (b) whether the Government is aware of the exclusion of certain important parts of the nation's history from the textbooks;
- (c) whether the Government is aware of the negative impact of this process on the secular and pluralistic fabric of the country;
- (d) whether it is true that many State Governments and educational experts have objected such revision/removal from NCERT Textbooks;
- (e) if so, whether the Government has any plans to rectify this issue and find consistent remedial measures to address it; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

- (a) As a follow-up of the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 and the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE) 2023, the National Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT) is in the process of developing new textbooks for Grades III to XII.

(b) to (f) During the Pandemic – COVID-19 situation, students across the stages of school education have struggled a lot to continue their learning through online and other modes. The concerns related to curriculum load including the content load spread over syllabi and textbooks have been raised from different corners. Parliament Standing Committee has also raised the concern about the content overload in the textbooks. NEP, 2020 also states, “The reduction in content and increased flexibility of school curriculum - and the renewed emphasis on constructive rather than rote learning - must be accompanied by parallel changes in school textbooks”. In view of facilitating speedy recovery in their learning continuous and compensating time loss, NCERT took a step towards the rationalization of textbooks, as per extant procedures, across the stages and subject areas and rationalised/updated the content of textbooks across the grades and subjects in the year 2021-22. These textbooks are continued from 2022-23 sessions onwards. Some updates have also been included in these textbooks in the year 2023-24 on account of evolution of knowledge, facts and their interpretations. Some of the committee members of the old Textbook Development Committee raised objections and NCERT has placed its clarification on its website. The link of the clarifications is as under:

https://ncert.nic.in/pdf/notice/Textbook_Development_Committee.pdf
