

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:169
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2003
PROMOTION OF BAL SAHITYA
RENUKA CHOWDHURY

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

[a] whether any scheme or strategy has been evolved by the Government to promote children literature (Bal Sahitya

(a);

[b] if so, the details thereof ;

[c] whether the Government have introduced any award for promoting Bal Sahitya; and

[d] if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA)

(a & b) The National Book Trust, India, [NBT] is an autonomous organization set up under this Ministry to produce and encourage production of good literature, and to make such literature available at moderate prices to the public. The NBT has been working to produce and promote meaningful literature for children. It has developed a rich collection of children's literature. With this objective, the National Center for Children's Literature [NCCL] was set up in the NBT in 1993 as a coordinating agency to promote children's literature in all Indian languages. Following activities are undertaken under NCCL: -

(i) Seminars/workshops for authors, publishers, illustrators, publishers involved in development of children's literature.

(ii) Reader's club movement - More than forty thousand Reader's clubs are established in schools, non-formal education centres, libraries all over the country. The NCCL provides books worth Rs.250/ as an incentive to each new club.

(iii) NCCL library - The NCCL has set up a reference library of children's literature with a stock of more than ten thousand books from about thirty six countries in eleven Indian & sixteen foreign languages.

(iv) Organization of exhibitions of children's books in the country to popularize them.

(c) Presently, the Government has no award scheme for children's literature.

(d) Does not arise.