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Title: Need to reduce the number of text books and other articles used in schools.

SHRI RAMESHWAR TELI (DIBRUGARH): I wish to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Minister for Human Resource Development to a very important issue. Nowadays the school children have to carry very heavy bags while going to school. A school bag contains not only books, pencil box , copies, water bottles, Tiffin box etc. but it also contains a yoga mat or the project work a student is assigned to. Moreover, as many school buildings are multistoried and without the provision of lift, the small children find it too difficult to carry their satchel to their classrooms on the upper floors. This has posed a serious threat to the health of our small school going children. A recent report says that there is an increase in the number of school children having back pain which further leads to fatigue, chronic headache, irreversible back deformities and breathing problems. Children lose interest in coming to schools with the stress of carrying heavy bags.

I, therefore, request the Hon'ble Minister of HRD to take appropriate steps to reduce the weight of the bags of school children.