

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 05.08.2011
ANSWERED ON
INCLUSION OF MAHARANI AVANTIBAI LODHI IN HISTORY SYLLABUS .

89

SHRI GANGA CHARAN

Will the Minister of COAL, PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :-

- (a) the information which Government has about Maharani Avantibai Lodhi of Mandla, Madhya Pradesh, who revolted against British Government in 1857 and the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government is contemplating to include the life story of Maharani Avantibai Lodhi, in line with Maharani Lakshmibai, in the history syllabus of class 10th and other classes; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 89 ASKED BY SHRI GANGA CHARAN REGARDING INCLUSION OF MAHARANI AVANTIBAI LODHI IN HISTORY SYLLABUS, DUE FOR ANSWER ON 05.8.2011.

(a) The name of Maharani Avantibai of Ramgarh State, today in Mandla district, Madhya Pradesh, will be remembered among the valiant women who sacrificed their lives in the 1857 War of Independence. When various kings and zamindars in the country began uniting against the English, Maharani Avantibai also raised an army of about four thousand and led it herself during 1857. She fought valiantly with the English army and attained martyrdom on 20.3.1858. Government of India had also issued a postal stamp on Rani Avantibai on 30.3.1988.

(b) and (c) The National Curriculum Framework (NCF)-2005 emphasizes reduction of curriculum load. It recommends that syllabi should be illustrative and not exhaustive in orientation and content. Based on the guiding principles of NCF-2005 and the recommendations of the National Focus Group on Teaching of Social Sciences, the NCERT had developed the syllabus in History with a focus on 'themes' and 'involvement of students with the subject', rather than on 'information'. However, the syllabus provides ample scope for the students to expand their knowledge with the help of teachers on any theme by way of different learning enrichment activities. NCF-2005 also lays stress on contextualizing knowledge by utilizing local resources. Therefore respective States are encouraged by NCERT to make use of material appropriate to the local context while developing their syllabus and textbooks.