

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

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.10**  
**ANSWERED ON 07.12.2022**

**SIKH HISTORY IN EDUCATIONAL TEXTBOOKS**

**10 SHRI VIKRAMJIT SINGH SAHNEY:**

Will the Minister of **EDUCATION** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is planning to incorporate history of various Sikh Gurus, Warriors and Freedom Fighters in various School and College textbooks;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government is planning to incorporate Battle of Saragarhi in school text books; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**  
**(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)**

(a) & (b): The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has informed that some of the Sikh Gurus like Baba Guru Nanak, Guru Gobind Singh, Guru Tegh Bahadur and Guru Angad among others have been reflected in the history textbooks of Class VII and Class XII. The freedom fighters are included in textbooks for Class VIII and Class XII in the context of events and occurrences that occurred during the freedom struggle.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has informed that as far as Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) are concerned, they have the academic autonomy to design, develop and adopt curriculum as per their requirement and choice. However, UGC had issued letter to the Higher Educational Institutions to sensitize the students towards the freedom struggle and Quit India Movement which led to securing of India's Independence. UGC has also developed a draft Curriculum and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programme which includes the course on "Understanding India". The course, among other things, aims to

deepen knowledge about and understanding of India's freedom struggle and of the values and ideals that it represented to develop an appreciation of the contributions made by people of all sections and regions of the country and the HEIs are free to introduce the course.

(c) & (d): Consequent upon announcement of the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, preparation of a new National Curriculum Framework (NCF) has been undertaken. Syllabus and textbooks in all subjects, including History, are prepared on the basis of extant education policy and National Curriculum Framework. Education being a subject in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and the majority of schools being under the jurisdiction of the State Governments, it is for the respective State Government to either adopt or adapt NCERT textbooks or develop their own textbooks based on the National Curriculum Framework. The States have flexibility to provide more coverage about personalities and events in their textbooks.

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