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

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1613 ANSWERED ON 21.12.2022

REVAMPING OF SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS BY STATE GOVERNMENTS

1613. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has planned to bring changes in school textbooks in line with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, especially History textbooks;
- (b) if so, the details of the changes brought in school textbooks, class-wise;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Bhagavad Gita would be introduced in the school curriculum as a mandatory reading; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and whether any other State Government has introduced similar additions to the school curriculum?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has informed that their present set of textbooks, including History textbooks, have been prepared based on the National Curriculum Framework(NCF), 2005. Syllabus and textbooks in all subjects, including History, are prepared on the basis of extant education policy and National Curriculum Framework. Consequent upon announcement of the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020, preparation of a new National Curriculum Framework (NCF) has been undertaken.

(c) & (d): NCERT has informed that the reference of 'Shrimad Bhagavad Gita' is included in Class VI and VII and its shlokas are included in Sanskrit text books of Class XI and XII. 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.
