

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:- 660
ANSWERED ON-26/07/2023

New National Education Policy

660 SMT. P. T. USHA:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has set forth a target date for States to implement and incorporate the New National Education Policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is aware of deletions and omissions of references of various freedom fighters and public activists of Kerala including Kerala Gandhi K Kelappan in school text books compiled by the appropriate Committees of curriculum drafting for the State;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and steps taken towards imparting references and information on unsung freedom fighters in the country in humanities stream; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

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

(a) and (b): As per National Education Policy 2020 (NEP) 2020, implementation of the Policy requires multiple initiatives and actions, which are to be taken up in a synchronized and systematic manner, by multiple bodies including Ministry of Education, CABE, State/UT Governments, education-related Ministries, State Departments of Education, Boards, NTA, the regulatory bodies of school and higher education, NCERT, SCERTs, schools and HEIs. The policy provides different timelines for important themes/sub-sets as well as principles and methodology for its implementation. Accordingly, this Ministry has communicated to all States/UT Governments for taking steps for implementation of NEP 2020 in letter and spirit. Further, in pursuance of the goals and objectives of the NEP 2020 and to assist States, UTs and other organisations in this task, the Department of School Education & Literacy has developed an indicative and suggestive NEP Implementation Plan for School Education, 'Students' and 'Teachers' Holistic Advancement through Quality Education (SARTHAQ)'. The major focus of SARTHAQ is to define activities in such a manner which clearly delineate goals, outcomes and timeframe. Details of SARTHAQ are available on the given link:

https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/upload_document/SARTHAQ_Part1_updat ed.pdf

(c) to (e): The Kerala State Government has informed that references to freedom fighters and public activists are not deleted or omitted in school textbooks of Humanities Stream in Kerala. The mention

of freedom fighters like Kerala Gandhi K. Kelappan is included in Social Science –I (Part 2) of Class X and Selected Themes in Kerala History (Part IV) of Class XII.

As per para 4.30 of NEP 2020, National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) under the Ministry of Education has initiated the process of development of National Curriculum Frameworks (NCF) where in inputs are invited from various stakeholders including various Ministries/Departments, States and UTs drawing from grass root levels. The details on the developments on NCF may be found at the link given: <https://ncf.ncert.gov.in/#/web/home>

Education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution and NEP 2020 entrusts States to prepare their own curricula based on NCF prepared by NCERT to the extent possible incorporating State flavor and material as needed. While doing so, it must be borne in mind that NCERT curriculum would be taken as the nationally acceptable criterion. Moreover, one of the principles of NEP 2020 is ‘a rootedness and pride in India’ which may lead to inclusion of content related to India’s struggle for freedom and important figures of national movement
