

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 355
ANSWERED ON 06.12.2023

Reasons for imposing NCERT Syllabus

355 **Shri Vaiko:**

Shri M. Shanmugam:

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

- (a) whether National Council for Education Research and Training (NCERT) has been notified as academic authority to frame national curriculum for schools in the country;
- (b) if so, the reason therefor, when the subject "School Education" is in the concurrent list;
- (c) the number of States which have rejected national curriculum of NCERT and have prepared their own curriculum through State agencies with details; and
- (d) the reason for insisting NCF by Ministry for the States to develop their syllabi and textbooks based on NCF?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (d) In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 29 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009, the Central Government has authorized the National Council of Educational Research and Training as the academic authority to lay down the curriculum and evaluation procedure for elementary education, and to develop a framework of national curriculum under clause (a) of sub-section (6) of Section 7 of the Act. NCF is not a prescriptive document and is suggestive/ recommendatory in nature.

Since Education is a subject in the Concurrent List of the Constitution; it is for the respective State Government to either adopt or adapt NCERT textbooks or develop their own textbooks based on the NCF. The NCF enables the federal structure of school education, with States ultimately setting their State or regional curricula, easily incorporating local elements. Further, National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 provides that States will prepare their own curricula (which may be based on the NCF for School Education (NCF-SE) prepared by the NCERT to the extent possible), incorporating state flavour and material as needed.
