

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3574
ANSWERED ON 02.04.2025

Changes in NCERT textbooks

3574 **Shri A. A. Rahim:**

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

- (a) the details of chapters and topics removed from NCERT textbooks in the last five years, subject-wise and class-wise, along with the reasons for their removal;
- (b) whether it is a fact that fundamental concepts such as secularism, evolution theory and key historical events have been omitted or altered, and if so, the justification for these changes; and
- (c) whether any academic or expert committees were consulted before making these revisions, and if so, the details of the members involved and recommendations made?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c) During the Pandemic – COVID-19 situation, students across the stages of school education have struggled a lot to continue their learning through online and other modes. The concerns related to curriculum load including the content load spread over syllabi and textbooks have been raised from different corners. Parliament Standing Committee has also raised the concern about the content overload in the textbooks. NEP, 2020 also states, “The reduction in content and increased flexibility of school curriculum - and the renewed emphasis on constructive rather than rote learning - must be accompanied by parallel changes in school

textbooks”. In view of facilitating speedy recovery in their learning continuous and compensating time loss, NCERT took a step towards the rationalization of textbooks, as per extant procedures, across the stages and subject areas and rationalised/updated the content of textbooks across the grades and subjects in the year 2021-22. These textbooks are continued from 2022-23 sessions onwards. Some updates have also been included in these textbooks in the year 2023-24 on account of evolution of knowledge, facts and their interpretations. Some of the committee members of the old Textbook Development Committee raised objections and NCERT has placed its clarification on its website. The link of the clarifications is as under:

https://ncert.nic.in/pdf/notice/Textbook_Development_Committee.pdf
