

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2139
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.01.2018**

Yash Pal Committee Report

†2139. SHRI ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken or proposes to take any steps to consider the slow pace of implementation of the report of Yash Pal Committee regarding reducing the academic burden on school children;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)**

(a) to (c) The issues related to curriculum load raised in the Yash Pal Committee Report (1993) on 'Learning Without Burden' were, *inter-alia*, taken into consideration at the time of framing of the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) –2005 by the National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT). The NCF sets the guidelines and direction for the development of syllabi and textbooks at all the school stages. As a follow up to the NCF, curriculum, syllabi, text-books and other supplementary material are developed by NCERT. State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERTs) and State Education Boards either adopt or adapt NCERT's model syllabi and textbooks or develop their own syllabi and textbooks based on NCF. Education, being a subject in the Concurrent List of the Constitution, it is for the respective States/Union Territory Governments to prescribe norms with regard to appropriate weight of School Bags for their schools.

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) have already taken measures to reduce the weight of school bags. NCERT has not recommended any textbook for early childhood education. It has recommended only two books (Language and Mathematics) for classes I & II and three books for classes III to IV (Language, Environmental Studies and Mathematics). The number and size of NCERT's textbooks used by the primary and secondary school students are appropriate to their age. NCERT has also made available all their textbooks for free access through the web (epathshala.nic.in) and mobile devices. The collections include textbooks for all subjects across all the stages and made available for free download and dissemination. CBSE has directed schools affiliated to it to ensure that students do not carry school bags till class II and also to restrict the number of books to be prescribed in classes I-VIII.
