

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION AND LITERACY**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1868
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30th July, 2018**

Book Allotment Centres

1868. SHRI OM BIRLA:

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

- (a) whether the Government is open to idea of opening book allotment centres across various schools where poor students can avail course book at the start of the session and they have to deposit the same at the end of the session so that it can be again issued to new batches and if so, whether the Government plans on implementing this model; and
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor along with the action taken by Government to make available course books to poor students at minimum prices?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): The Central Government has launched an Integrated scheme, for school education named as Samagra Shiksha w.e.f 2018-19, which subsumes the three erstwhile Centrally Sponsored schemes of school education i.e. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Teacher Education (CSSTE). Under the erstwhile scheme of SSA, textbooks were provided to all children of classes I to VIII in Government/Local Body and Government aided schools including Madarasas desirous of introducing the State curriculum, within an upper ceiling of Rs150/- per child at primary level and Rs 250/- per child at upper primary level. Under the new Integrated scheme of Samagra Shiksha the ceiling has been increased to Rs.250/- per child at primary level and Rs.400/- at upper primary level. Further, there is a recommendation in the Samagra Shiksha scheme to encourage reuse of textbooks so that every child in the school has a textbook at the beginning of the academic year.

Additionally, the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has launched a programme known as 'PUSTAKOPAHAAR' in which senior students gift their books to juniors in the beginning of academic year in all Kendriya Vidyalayas across the country on voluntary basis. It serves dual purpose of having books without any financial burden and also saves environment by saving paper by reusing existing books.

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