

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3273
ANSWERED ON 16.12.2024

NCERT New Textbooks

3273. Dr. Rajesh Mishra:
Smt. Smita Uday Wagh:
Shri Tejasvi Surya:
Shri Praveen Patel:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has removed and added many chapters in the text books and if so, the rationale behind it;
- (b) whether it is being done on the recommendations of any Committee, if so, the composition and mandate of the committee;
- (c) whether NCERT is preparing new textbooks as per National Curriculum Framework (NCF) for School Education 2023 for new academic year;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the State Governments have been advised to adopt the NCF for school education developed by the NCERT; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) 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. The National Education Policy (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, National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) took a step towards the rationalization of textbooks, as per extant procedures, across the stages and subject areas and rationalized/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.

(c) & (d) Yes, As a follow up of National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Stage (NCF-FS), 2022, NCERT has developed new Textbooks for Grade 1 and 2, which have already been introduced from 2023-24. NCERT has also developed new textbooks for Grades 3 and 6 as a follow-up of the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE), 2023, which have been introduced from 2024-25.

(e) & (f) The NEP, 2020 in its para 4.32 states that, “States will prepare their own curricula (which may be based on the NCFSE prepared by NCERT to the extent possible) and prepare textbooks (which may be based on the NCERT textbook materials 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”.
