

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1174
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.12.2015

Objectives of NCERT

1174. COL. SONARAM CHOUDHARY:

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

- (a) the main objectives of the National Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT);
- (b) whether the Government has received any complaints that country's history has been presented in a distorted & misinterpreted form in text books meant for education in country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is taking any step to constitute an experts' committee to address the flaw, based on complaints pertaining to charges in history as presented in text books; and
- (e) whether the Government is taking/ proposes to take any concrete steps to include in syllabi the episode of genius history by making it mandatory in primary education?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

- (a) The main objectives of the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) are to:
 - (i) undertake, aid, promote and coordinate research in areas related to school education;
 - (ii) prepare and publish model textbooks, supplementary material, newsletters, journals and other related literature;
 - (iii) organize pre-service and in-service training of teachers;
 - (iv) develop and disseminate innovative educational techniques and practices;
 - (v) collaborate and network with state educational departments, universities, NGOs and other educational institutions;

- (vi) act as a clearing house for ideas and information in matters related to school education;
and
(vii) act as a nodal agency for achieving goals of universalisation of elementary education.

(b & c) Representations have been received from time to time with regard to history textbooks. The representations, as and when received, are forwarded to the concerned for taking appropriate action. Whenever complaints pertained to NCERT text-books, NCERT has taken these representations into consideration and, wherever found necessary, changes have been carried out in the relevant text books.

(d) NCERT constituted an expert Committee, consisting of experts from various universities/institutions in the country to take a quick review of History Textbooks of NCERT to remove any mistake or controversial material, if any, mentioned therein. The Committee has submitted its report.

(e) The NCERT history textbooks already include a number of glorious historical incidents of the country from the ancient to the modern periods of Indian history. The National Curriculum Framework (NCF)-2005 suggests integration of value concerns in the entire school life – the curriculum, classroom environment, school management, textbooks, teaching learning, teacher pupil relationships etc.
