

or so, in a parliamentary election, is being adhered to by the Election Commission. Earlier, there was no limit on party expenditure and the explanation that allowed this was done away with in the law made in 2003. So, the process of electoral reforms reducing the influence of big money is an ongoing process. The idealism, which we want to arrive at, has not yet come. And, I hope that the consensus of political parties one day will provide us and it requires the support of all political parties. Divergent views are there. All these Leftist parties have their own views, but Inderjit Gupta Committee was uniformly accepted and the required partial funding which the Government has approved. Once the Election Commission gives the nod that are ready, we will be very willing to do that. And, any other consensus which this House resolves, we will implement that.

श्री सभापति : माननीय मंत्री महोदय, इसको फाइनल शेप देने से पहले क्या यह उचित होगा कि आप इस सदन में इस विषय के ऊपर चर्चा करा लें?

SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ: I am ready, in whatever form it comes. As a matter of fact, it will require certain amendments in the law. We will do that.

Changes in school syllabus

*23. **SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have any proposal to introduce tennis teen sensation Sania Mirza in the syllabus of primary schools;

(b) if so, the modalities worked out for this purpose;

(c) whether Government would like to aim and see how issues of culture are linked to the making of the contemporary world;

(d) if so, the comments of Government thereupon;

(e) whether Government are of the view that the introduction of these chapters would evoke a positive response from the students; and

(f) if so, the comments of Government thereupon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (f) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (f) Cultural matters are suitably reflected in the National Curriculum Framework (NCF)- 2005. This is expected, *inter-alia*, to kindle students' interest in, and facilitate their understanding of the contemporary world.

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Sir, the question pertains to tennis sensation Sania Mirza of Andhra Pradesh and the hon. Minister is also from Andhra Pradesh. Incidentally, I have put the question who is from Andhra itself.

Sir, I have put this question basically to ask the Government as to whether the Government is willing to create interest amongst the students and facilitate the understanding of the contemporary world, and the hon. Minister has come out with the answer saying that the National Curriculum Framework, 2005 is in the process. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to what are the important and salient features of the National Curriculum Framework, 2005.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, the National Curriculum Framework, 2005, as we all know, would be looked into by NCERT and then it should be approved by the CABE. A monitoring committee under the Chairmanship of Professor Mrinal Miri was set up on 13-09-2005 to oversee the syllabus formation and the textbooks.

The monitoring committee finalised the syllabus in its meeting on 4-10-2005, and, the new textbooks are being prepared in three phases, in Phase-I, textbooks for Classes 1, 3, 6, 9 and 11 would be coming out. In Phase-II, *i.e.* 2007-08, we would be introducing text books for Classes 2, 4, 6, 7, 10 and 12 and in Phase-III, *i.e.* 2008-09, we would be introducing text books for Classes 5 and 6. And, the new text books for Classes 1, 3, 6, 9 and 11 were approved in the monitoring committee on the 11th and 14th of November and, subsequently, on 28th and 30th of November, 2005 and these are under print. These text books will be primarily used by the CBSE affiliated schools.

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Sir, the very purpose of my question is to create interest among students.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have created interest in the House.

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Sir, I am honoured. I am honoured. Sir, in view of my submission and in view of the name and fame brought to our country by Sania Mirza, Karnam Maheshwari, Hari Krishna, Gopi Chand, and, many people are there, I want to ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, I agree, fortunately or unfortunately, they are all from Andhra and we feel proud of them. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, though I belong to a regional party with national outlook, I would like to request the hon. Minister to see whether this can be introduced in the chapters in due course of time.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, I appreciate the sensitivity displayed by the Member who feels that if young achievers are incorporated in the syllabus then it will enthuse the coming generations. Sir, when we look at subject English, in class 6 textbook, there is a title, 'An Indian American Women in Space- Kalpana Chawla.' Again, in the English textbook for class 9, there is 'Reach of the top-1', which talks about Santosh Yadav. She is the only women in the world to have scaled the Mount Everest. Again, in the English textbook for Class 9, in the lesson 'Sound of Music', Edwin Glenny has been incorporated and she is the teenager Scottish musician. We are trying to look and see as to how many more could be included.

SHRI N. JOTHI: Sir, Vishwanathan Anand is also from Tamil Nadu.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, in the first occasion of answering, she has done an excellent job. I am really impressed. Sir, the question that I have relates to parts (c) to (f) of the answer that the Minister has given. She says, "Cultural matters are suitably reflected in the National Curriculum Framework, (NCF)-2005." Sir, my question is in two parts. Part 'A' of my question is that as far as the National Curriculum Framework is concerned, some very senior and reputed academicians have raised some serious issues where they have disagreed on many important aspects, and, unfortunately, the Government has not been forthcoming and setting up any mechanism to deal with these important issues which have been raised. So, what I want to know from the Minister is, will the Minister give an assurance in this House that all the issues which have

been raised regarding the NCF-2005, you will set up a mechanism to be able to deal with those issues? And, 'b' is, as far as schoolbooks ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Only 'a' please.

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: This is in the future. As far as schoolbooks already in circulation are concerned, how far has the process of detoxification gone? Because, the first assurance given by the Ministry was that all the communal readings of history will be removed. So, how far has that gone? That is what we want to know.

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, India's pluralistic and diverse culture has always been the heart of the national curriculum. And, mentions of cultural perspectives and its linkages to the making of contemporary would be expected to evoke a positive response from the students also. With regard to the assurance that she has been asking for, it will be looked into.

DR. K. MALAISAMY: Thank you, Sir. When there are umpteen number of leading, outstanding, tennis players in the country, what made Mr. Chandra Sekar Reddy to be so much enamoured on Sania Mirza alone? ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, this is a question already answered by ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This question is not directed to the Minister. It is directed to you Mr. Chandra Sekar Reddy. Please reply.

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Sir, I will answer when I become a Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, that's right.

Rates charged by private operators

*24. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether various private operators charge different rates, from their mobile phone subscribers, than the rates charged by the Government companies;