

[5 December, 2005]

RAJYA SABHA

whether it is a fact that the new book under the Harry Potter series titled "Harry Potter and Half Blood Prince" and stories of other books under the same series are just glorification of monstrous world of demons which are casting a very bad effect on the minds of innocent children;

if so, whether it is a fact that the children of developed Countries don't hesitate in opening fire even on their friends, teachers and parents after reading such books and after watching violent films on televisions; and

(c) if so, the action being taken by Government to stop development of such violent emotions in the minds of the children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) No information on this subject is available with Government.

(c) Does not arise.

Draft legislation on Common Entrance Test

1229. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

whether Karnataka Government had written to the Centre asking for a comprehensive draft of the proposed Central legislation on Common Entrance Test in unaided private professional colleges in the State; and

if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The matter is under the consideration of the Central Government.

Textbook Regulatory Council

1230. SHRI V HANUMANTHA RAO:
DR. T SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) whether in an attempt to regulate education in Madarsas, missionary, RSS-run and private schools, his Ministry has decided to set up a Textbook Regulatory Council;

if so, whether Council will also review the books prescribed by the Boards like ICSE;

whether this report was approved by the Central Advisory Board on Education;

if so, the objectives of this Council;

by when the Council is likely to submit its recommendations; and

(0 whether his Ministry is working on a legislation to set up a National Textbooks Council to monitor school text books produced outside Government system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALIASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

Does not arise.

to (f) A Sub-Committee of the Central Advisory Board of Education was set up on "Regulatory Mechanism for Textbooks and Parallel Textbooks taught in schools outside the Government System". The Committee had made several recommendations including setting up of National Textbook Council to monitor textbooks. The matter is under consideration of the Ministry.

Central University status to Sambalpur University

1231. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

SHRI B.J. PANDA:

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

whether it is a fact that Orissa written to the Centre for grant of Central University status to the Sambalpur University;

whether it is also a fact that the proposal is hanging fire since long;

if so, the reasons therefor;

whether Government have not accorded this status to any of the universities in the State; and

if so, the reasons therefor?