## Controversy on NCERT/CBSE text books

1759. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether certain contents in NCERT/CBSE text books had generated controversy recently;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken by the Government to remove those controversial lessons/sections from the books;
- (d) whether Government has set up any committee to review those text books from the point of view of identifying educationally inappropriate materials, and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether Government has received the report of the said committee, if so, the details thereof, the follow-up action taken thereon and the implementation of the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) and (b) The major issues about textbook content that were recently received by the MHRD from various quarters are listed below:

- (i) References made to Shri Narayana Guru (Textbook on History for Class VIII-Our Pasts-III, Part-I).
- (ii) References to Nadar Community (Textbook on History for Class IX-India and the Contemporary World-1).
- (iii) Reference to two illustrations and related content given in the theme The Central Islamic Lands (Textbook on History for Class XI-Themes in World History).
- (iv) Reference made to Mirabai (Textbook on History for Class XII-Themes in Indian History, Part-II).
- (v) Objection raised regarding certain cartoons and other content in the Text books in Political Science for Class IX-XII.
- (c) The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has carried out the necessary changes in the Social Science/History textbooks and in the Political Science textbooks.
- (d) and (e) The NCERT under the Ministry of Human Resource Development, enjoys academic autonomy in the matter of developing, printing and distribution of its text books. NCERT had constituted a six-member Committee on 14.05.2012 under the Chairmanship of Prof. S.K. Thorat, the then Chairman, Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) to review the textbooks of Social Science/Political Science for classes IX-XII with the following terms of reference:
  - (i) To review the classes IX-XII Social Science/Political Science textbooks of the NCERT from the point of view of identifying educationally inappropriate materials.

(ii) Providing suggestions for alternatives to be placed in the textbooks so that the material can be immediately made available to the learners concerned.

The NCERT received the report of the Committee on 27.06.2012. The Committee had recommended some changes in four textbooks namely, "Democratic Politics I-Class IX", "Democratic Politics II- Class X", "Indian Constitution at work-Class XI" and "Politics in India since Independence—Class XII". In addition, the Committee had also made certain general recommendations to be considered at the time the books were reviewed. The National Monitoring Committee (NMC) constituted to oversee the syllabi and textbooks developed by the NCERT in its meeting held on 17.07.2012 discussed the Thorat Committee Report, and recommended changes in the textbooks of Political Science. The NMC also decided that the concerned Textbook Development Committee (TDC) would work with the NCERT to suggest changes. The TDC in its meetings during 30th July to 1st August, 2012 recommended necessary changes including the deletion of six cartoons in the Political Science textbooks. The NCERT has accordingly, carried out the necessary changes.

## Building of Kendriya Vidyalaya at Mahoba

†1760. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Kendriya Vidyalaya at Mahoba in Uttar Pradesh is being run even today in a rented/leased building;
  - (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) by when the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan would get its own school building constructed there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) and (b) At present, the Kendriya