(c)   No such information is maintained at Central level.

Updation of NCERT books

3270. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a)   whether it is a fact that all the schools under the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) would compulsorily have textbooks published by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT);

(b)   whether the Ministry is taking steps to ensure quality in the contents of NCERT books and if so, the details thereof; and

(c)   whether the Ministry has updated the contents of NCERT books during the last ten years and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) to (c) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) prescribes textbooks for classes IX to XII. As the curricula for these classes are based on the textbooks published by National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT). CBSE does not provide curriculum and textbooks for classes I-VIII and schools are to adapt/adopt curriculum published by NCERT and as far as practicable use textbooks published by NCERT. The textbooks developed by NCERT are students friendly and engage students in active learning. These books are developed by textbook committees and approved by the National Monitoring Committee set up by the Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Improving learning outcome of children

3271. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a)   whether the Ministry is aware of the recently released Annual Status of Education Report (ASER), 2016;

(b)   whether only 53 per cent students in class V could read class II text and only 13 per cent students of class VIII could read class I text;

(c)   whether the arithmetic ability, such as doing divisions, among class VIII students has continued to drop and has been declining since 2010; and

(d)   whether the Ministry is taking any steps to increase the learning outcome of children and if so, the details thereof?