

- (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?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) to (c) A non-governmental organization conducted the annual achievement surveys released in the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER). It is a household survey limited to rural areas of the country. As per their report of 2016, there has been improvement in terms of learning outcomes. The Department of School Education & literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development was not associated with this ASER 2016 survey.

As per ASER- 2016 the proportion of children in Std. V who could read a Std. II level text is 47.8% and 13% of class VIII children can read Class-I textbook.

The proportion of Std. VIII students who could correctly do a 3-digit by 1-digit division problem was 68.4% in 2010, this is now 43.3% in 2016.

(d) In order to focus on quality education, the Central RTE Rules have been amended on 20th February, 2017 to include reference on class-wise, subject-wise Learning Outcomes. The Learning Outcomes for each class in Languages (Hindi, English and Urdu), Mathematics, Environmental Studies, Science and Social Science up to the elementary stage have, accordingly, been finalized and shared with all States and UTs. These would serve as a guideline for States and UTs to ensure that all children acquire appropriate learning level.

Simultaneous sign language interpretation for telecast on Doordarshan

3272. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any measures to provide simultaneous sign language interpretation for telecasts on all Doordarshan channels on all important events and occasions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to bring a standard policy to ensure that private TV channels are also accessible to persons with hearing disabilities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (COL. RAJYAVARDHAN SINGH RATHORE): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that Doordarshan has provided sign language interpretation for telecasts on important events and occasions namely Republic Day Parade, President's Messages