

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2606
ANSWERED ON 18.12.2024

Compulsory legal education in school

2606 # Shri Mahendra Bhatt:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government will consider to include legal education and self-defense training in the school curriculum; and
(b) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b) The National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 includes safety and security of students and legal provisions in place in a holistic manner.

Legal Literacy / Education: National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE), 2023 includes Legal Studies in Grades 11 and 12 as an Interdisciplinary area. NCFSE-2023 emphasizes that all Resource Persons/Master Instructors as well as other employees must be sensitized and be aware of legal provisions related to the safety of students. NCFSE-2023 also emphasizes on awareness about legal provisions related to school education. Furthermore, NCERT has developed “Legal Literacy Handbook for Curriculum Developers” and modules for Grade 6 to 12 on:

- (i) The Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam-2023
- (ii) The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita-2023
- (iii) The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita-2023.

The above mentioned special modules are available in public domain at the following link:
<https://ncert.nic.in/newlaws2023.php>

Self Defense: The NCF-SE, 2023, in the section Ensuring Student Safety has emphasized on the need for safety and well-being of everyone on the school campus must always be given the utmost priority. It has brought to focus the importance of Physical Safety, Emotional Safety, Intellectual Safety, Prevention of Bullying, Prevention of Sexual Harassment, etc. The issues and age appropriate content related to self-defense is included in the curriculum. Self Defense is also the part of the Syllabus of Health Physical Education and well-being and Ayushman Bharat School Health and Wellness Programme (ABSHWP).

The NCERT has developed training material for Teacher Educators on Gender Equality and Empowerment in 3 Volumes in which various aspects of self-defense, safety and security and legal provisions have been included. This training material has modules on Gender and Violence, Protecting the Right of Girls and Women: The Legal Framework, etc. highlighting the safety and security as an important theme for girls.

The NCERT has been carrying out gender sensitization programmes for various stakeholders such as teacher-educators, teachers, administrators, etc. In all its capacity building programs socialization practices, gender-based violence, laws for safety and security of girls and self-defense techniques for girls, awareness on POCSO Act, importance of self-defense training to girls as well as Cybercrime and digital abuse are integral components so as to create awareness as well as sensitize various stakeholders on the importance of safety and security and prevention of sexual abuse.

The NCERT has also conducted a National Evaluation of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (2022-23) in which 254 functional KGBVs from 30 states /UTs were taken up for the study. The findings reveal that girls in 207 KGBVs were trained in martial arts and self-defense techniques and were also oriented on legal rights.
