

(c) how many schools, as per the directions of the CBSE, have appointed bio-technology teachers for teaching the same to the students;

(d) whether it is also a fact that 50 per cent of the chapters on bio-technology are not being taught in schools; and

(e) if so, what action has been taken on such schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. As per the information received from the CBSE the Board periodically updates the curriculum for the Secondary and Senior Secondary schools affiliated to it in order to meet the emerging challenges arising out of scientific and technological innovations. Since bio-technology is an emerging field of science and has enormous scope and prospects for the younger generation, the Board has approved Bio-technology as a subject in 125 schools and has also prescribed the basic qualification of teachers for teaching this subject. The Board had undertaken extensive training programmes for orientation of the teachers in Bio-technology so that they are empowered to understand and apply the concepts.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Errors in social science text books

397. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI ABANI ROY:
SHRI TARINI KANTA RAY:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Errors galore in NCERT text books" reported in the 'Hindu' dated 5th October, 2002;

(b) if so, whether teachers of various schools have found factual errors in the social science text books of VI and IX standards; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry is rectifying the mistakes in the text books;

(d) whether, inspite of factual errors, Government have imposed deliberately books from the current year itself; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. As reported by NCERT, its attention has been drawn towards some errors that crept into new text books. These errors are broadly of four types, namely, typographical, language, factual and those of omission of some factual information. NCERT carried out corrections/revision wherever found necessary. Development/revision/modifications of text books are regular and on going activities of NCERT. Central Government does not impose text books. It is upto the respective State Governments/Boards of School Education to take a suitable decision on the books to be used in their respective schools.

Fake certificates

398. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM:
SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that recently fake certificates have been recovered from a fake Central Board of Higher Education in Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that they had set up their centres in various States;

(c) if so, the steps taken to curb such fake education centres from spreading its wings to destabilize the educational system in the country; and

(d) the details of the seizures in the above and such other cases, where forged education certificates have come into play?