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CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

(An Autonomous Organization under the Union Ministry of Human Resource Development Govt. of India)
"SHIKSHA KENDRA", 2, COMMUNITY CENTRE, PREET VIHAR, DELHI - 110 301

CBSE/AFF/Circular /2013

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14th May, 2013

Circular No.04/2013

All the Managers/Heads of CBSE affiliated schools

Sub: Guidelines to schools for the selection of books for classes I – VIII.

Dear Principal,

The affiliation bye-laws of the Board require that a school affiliated to CBSE must follow syllabus/guidelines for classes' I-VIII on the pattern of syllabus/guidelines for these classes given by N.C.E.R.T. However, it has come to the notice of the Board in the last academic session that some schools find it rather difficult to interpret the guidelines given in the National Curriculum Framework - 2005 regarding textbooks and hence follow inappropriate textbooks in classes I-VIII.

In view of the above context, the Board considers it necessary to illustrate guidelines to be followed by schools while selecting textbooks for classes I – VIII. The Schools therefore are advised to keep the following points in mind before making rational choices and decisions regarding textbooks to be followed in these classes:

1. Heavy encyclopedic textbooks generally contain a large amount of information which may not be age appropriate and do not establish a dialogue with children. Therefore, schools are advised to constitute committees for verifying that a textbook must be based on principles of **child-centered education, activity based learning, child development** and content must place importance on integrating **experiences of children** and their **diverse socio-cultural contexts and languages**.

2. Textbooks must draw from the tenets of **Values Education, Gender Sensitivity** and **Inclusive Education** especially in the context of **disadvantaged and first generation** learners wherever possible. Textbooks must be free from subjective information. Themes incorporated in them must be capable of sustaining the interest of the students.

3. Textbooks must be ethically, culturally, environmentally, constitutionally and pedagogically valid in a Pan-Indian/Global (if applicable) context. They must not contain anything objectionable to any religion, culture, gender, class or community and be free from errors of all kinds.

4. Content must proceed in a systematic manner with graded order of difficulty. The language followed in a textbook must be simple and in accordance with the level of learners. Illustrations such as diagrams and tables given in the textbooks must be properly distributed throughout the book and encourage interest of students.

5. As overdependence of teachers on books promotes rigidity and hampers exploration by students, therefore the NCF-2005 recommended plurality of textbooks as well as other learning aids as per the need of a school in the local context. Schools therefore are advised to, if possible, procure a sufficient number of good textbooks for each class in each subject for the school library.

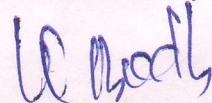
As per Affiliation Bye-Laws Rule 15.1 (d) "The school will follow the syllabus on the basis of curriculum prescribed by NCERT/CBSE and text books publishing by NCERT/CBSE for the Middle Classes as far as practicable or exercise extreme care while selecting books of private publishers. The content must be scrutinised to preclude any objectionable content that hurts the feelings of any class, community, gender, religious group in society. If found prescribing books having such content, the school will have to take responsibility of such content."

“Provided that the school would put a list of such books prescribed by it on its website with the written declaration duly signed by the Manager and the Principal to the effect that they have gone through the contents of the books prescribed by the school and own the responsibility.”

The syllabus and books selected should always be Right to Free and Compulsory Education for Children Act, 2009 (RTE) compliant, and it is the duty of the school management to ensure the same.

It is also brought in the notice of all the schools affiliated to Board that in case a book followed by any school is found to contain any content in violation of above guidelines, the school concerned will have to take responsibility of such content and appropriate action will be taken by the Board against management of such school.

Yours sincerely,



(U.C BODH)

DEPUTY SECRETARY(AFF)

Distribution:

Copy to the respective Heads of Directorates, Organizations and Institutions as indicated below with a request to disseminate the information to all the schools under their jurisdiction:

1. *The Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, 18-Institutional Area, Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg, New Delhi- 16.*
2. *The Commissioner, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, A-28, Kailash Colony, New Delhi.*
3. *The Director of Education, Directorate of Education, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Old Secretariat, Delhi- 110054.*
4. *The Director of Public Instructions (Schools), Union Territory Secretariat, Sector-9, Chandigarh- 160017.*
5. *The Director of Education, Govt. of Sikkim, Gangtok, Sikkim- 737101.*
6. *The Director of School Education, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar-791111*
7. *The Director of Education, Govt. of A&N Islands, Port Blair- 744101.*
8. *The Director of Education, S.I.E., CBSE Cell, VIP Road, Junglee Ghat, P.O. 744103, A&N Islands.*

9. The Secretary, Central Tibetan School Administration, S S Plaza, Community Centre, Sector 3, Rohini, Delhi-85
10. All the Regional Officers of CBSE with the request to send this circular to all the Heads of the affiliated schools of the Board
11. The Education Officers/ AEOs of the Academic Branch, CBSE.
12. The Director (IT) with the request to put this circular on the CBSE website.
13. The Research Officer (Tech.), CBSE, Rouse Avenue with request to put this circular on the CBSE Academic website.
14. The Joint Director, Academic & Vocational Branch, CBSE
15. The Library and Information Officer, CBSE.
16. PS to Chairman, CBSE
17. PA to Secretary, CBSE
18. SO to CE, CBSE
19. PS to Director (Acad. & Trg.)
20. PS to Director(Special Examinations)
21. PS to Director (Edusat and Vocational Education)
22. PRO, CBSE.

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