Punjab School Education Board Circular

Circular No. 225 | m21 | 4719

Date: 29-4-2022

- 1. Directors/Principals of Punjab State Govt./Recognized/Aided/
 Affiliated, Associated and Adarsh schools of PSEB
- 2. D.E.Os of State
- 3. All Depot Managers of PSEB
 Sub: Guidelines to schools for the selection of books for classes –
 I to XII.

All State Govt./ Recognized/Aided/Affiliated, Associated and Adarsh schools of PSEB must follow syllabus/guidelines issued by Board and textbooks published by the Board, However, it has come to the notice of the Board that some schools use inappropriate books in classes I to XII.

In view of the above context, the Board considers it necessary to illustrate guidelines to be followed by schools while selecting books for these classes.

- I. The School will follow the syllabus on the basis of curriculum prescribed by PSEB and strictly follow the textbooks published by the PSEB for classes I to XII
- II. For classes XI and XII, the subjects for which Board does not prepare/publish text books, the school will follow the syllabus on the basis of curriculum prescribed by PSEB and will choose books according to the directions given below:
 - 1. Heavy encyclopedic books 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 book being selected must be based on principles of child-centered education, activity based learning, child development. The content of books must place importance on integrating

experiences of children and their diverse socio-cultural contexts and languages.

- 2. Books must draw from the tenets of Values Education, Gender Sensitivity and Inclusive Education. Books must be free from subjective information.
- 3. Books must be ethically, culturally, environmentally, constitutionally and pedagogically valid in State/Pan-India/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 book must be simple and in accordance with the level of learners. Illustrations such as diagrams and tables etc. given in the books must be properly distributed throughout the book and encourage interest of students.
- 5. As over dependence of teachers on books promotes rigidity and hampers exploration by students, therefore the NCF-2005 recommended plurality of books 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 books for each class in each subject for the school library.

Content of the books must be scrutinized to preclude any objectionable content that hurts the feelings of any class, community, gender, religious group in society. If prescribed books are found 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 Director

/Principal to the effect that the committee has gone through the contents of the books prescribed by the school and own the responsibility.

It is also brought to the notice of all the schools that in case a school is found guilty of not using textbooks published by PSEB or 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 Director/Principal/committee of such school.

Secretary 29/04/2022

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