

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
DATE: 13.7.2004

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE N. SANTOSH HEGDE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S.B. SINHA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE A.K. MATHUR

ORDER

Upon hearing the counsel the Court made the following Order

Learned counsel for the State of Goa and Kerala sought time to get instructions from their respective States. We decline to grant any further time.

We confirm the order dated 22nd April, 2004 made by this Court and direct that the syllabus prepared by the NCERT for Class I to XII shall be adopted by every State in their respective schools.

We further direct that NCERT is appointed as a nodal agency to supervise the implementation of this Court order. Opportunity is given to the petitioner to approach this Court in the event of any failure by the States compliance of the order.

Learned counsel appearing for UGC submits that they have also prepared a common syllabus and the same is being implemented by the various educational institutions and they are supervising the implementation of the same. This statement is recorded.

None represents AICTE and NCITE, Notice shall go to the respondents directly calling upon them to be represented in this Court on the next date of hearing to inform the Court whether a common syllabus as required by this Court has been prepared by them or not and, If prepared, the same is being implemented by the respective institutions under their control or not call this matter after two weeks.

Order dated 22nd April, 2004

HON'BLE Mr. JUSTICE M. SANTOSH HEGDE
HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE B.P.SINGH

By our order dated 18th December, 2003, we had directed the NCERT to formulate a syllabus including the one environmental studies from class I to XII. The NCERT has since filed a report which enclosing the syllabus prepared by it. According to NCERT this syllabus is prepared in consultation with the State Government and other concerned authorities.

We accept this syllabus and we are of the opinion that the same should be introduced in all the schools in India, However, before passing formal orders in this regard, we would like to have the opinion of the State Governments concerned, hence we direct all the State Governments to respond to the reports submitted by the NCERT within 8 weeks from today some of the counsel appearing for the State Governments have submitted that they have not received the copies of the report, if so, they can collect the same from the registry of this Court on payment of nominal charges within a week from today.

The State Governments will take note of the fact that NCERT will be appointed as a modular agency to monitor implementation of the syllabus prepared by it.

She M.C.Mehta, the petitioner in this petition submits that the directions should also be given to train the teacher in the subject, but for the time being we do not intend issuing any direction on such request of Shri Mehta. It will be considered at an appropriate time.

List this matter for further orders on 13th July, 2004.