

IUML demands withdrawal of textbooks for extra reading

Continuing its opposition to a controversial Class 7 textbook for social science in Kerala, the Indian Union Muslim League (IUML) Friday demanded withdrawal of five textbooks proposed for extra reading saying that they foster communalism and the caste system.

The textbook and the books suggested for extra reading are part of a new curriculum introduced this academic year by the Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M)-led government.

Addressing reporters here Friday, IUML state general secretary P.K. Kunhalikutty said that the party would intensify its agitation if the government failed to withdraw the books prescribed for extra reading.

The state has already been witnessing protests by the opposition parties and various religious organisations demanding withdrawal of the textbook, which they say promotes atheism and communist ideology.

IUML state secretary E.T. Muhammed Basheer, who also addressed reporters here, pointed out that three of the five books suggested for extra reading openly exhorts readers to join the communist party.

The IUML leaders also said they are ready to withdraw the agitation if the government temporarily suspends the teaching of the controversial textbook.

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