

Critical Analysis of Hindi Text Book of Class 'Four'

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Abstract:

Role of textbook in teaching learning process is inevitable. A good textbook helps in achieving goals of teaching learning process. Keeping in mind, the criteria of a good textbook and aims and objectives of a textbook, an attempt has been made to analyze the textbook of Hindi of class 4. Researcher had surveyed the teachers of directorate of Education, Pre-service teacher trainees of DIET, students of Government schools of DoE (Directorate of Education) and their parents and their views have been analyzed critically to judge the quality of the textbook as per the changing needs of teachers and parents.

I. INTRODUCTION

In the present scenario of education system most of the teachers rely on textbook. Though following textbook blindly is not appreciated but no doubt it is essential at all levels as it guides the teachers and parents that at a particular age and intellectual level what is appropriate to teach. The Central Advisory Board of Education advocated **"a modern educational system without textbook is as difficult to imagine as hamlet without the Prince of Denmark"**.

No doubt the definitions for Textbooks are wide and varied. One common definition is that a textbook is a printed and bound artefact for each year or course of study (Encyclopedia of Education, 2008b). They contain facts and ideas around a certain subject.

Textbooks are not like other books. Today, textbooks are assembled more than they are written. They are not usually written by a single author, nor are they a creative and imaginative endeavor. They are, in fact, usually specially made by a corporation to follow a set standard curriculum for a school system or larger organization, such as a province (Encyclopedia of Education, 2008b).

It directs in the vast sea of knowledge by providing particular content for particular class and so helps in maintaining the uniformity. In developing country like India textbook is an economical and easily available source of teaching and learning. A good textbook proves to be a store house of knowledge. It not only carries the content to be taught but provides related questions and exercises which are useful for assessing and evaluating the learning of students. It helps in catering large number of individual differences of a class.

Textbook plays pivot role in teaching learning process. Teaching learning process revolves around the textbooks. They are essential for students as well as for teachers also. A textbook works as a guide for a teacher as it directs that what should be taught and how much is to be taught according to the cognitive level of learners.

Need and Importance of Textbooks

Collection of knowledge, experiences and information.

- They are economical.
- Helps students in proper use of leisure time.

- Promotes habit of self-study in students.
- Develops creativity in students.
- Helps in revision of student.
- Saves time and energy of teacher as well as students.
- Helps in keeping the knowledge permanent.
- Develops imagination of students.
- Helps the teachers to proper himself before going in the class room.
- Guides student and teacher about the curriculum.

II. NEED OF THE STUDY

Keeping the importance of the textbook in mind, researcher felt the need to analyze the textbook to assess the quality of the textbook as per the present demands.

III. SAMPLE

Data was collected from 15 In-service teachers of DoE, 12 Pre-service teacher trainees, 51 students of Govt. schools of DoE and 109 parents.

IV. TOOLS USED FOR RESEARCH

Questionnaire (developed by the researcher)

Questionnaire was divided into two parts where in Section 'A' questions were based on the mechanical make-up of the textbook, in Section 'B' questions were framed for the presentation of content internal of the textbook.

V. ANALYSIS OF DATA

Response of 12 Pre-service Trainee Teachers

Table No. 1: showing the response of pre-service trainee teachers regarding the mechanical make-up of the text book

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S. No.	Statement	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Can't say
1	Cover page of text book is beautiful & attractive	50%	33%	17%	--	--
2	Picture on cover page is appropriate	25%	25%	8%	--	42%
3	Binding of the book is good	8%	12%	33%	--	17%
4	Quality of a printing of cover page is appropriate	33%	50%	--	--	17%
5	Title of book is according to the subject	17%	33%	17%	8%	25%

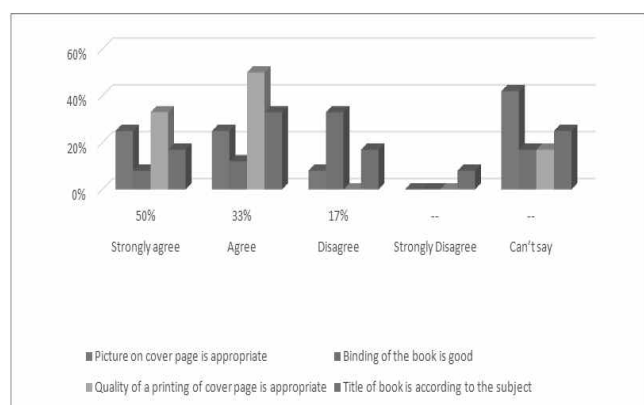


Figure 1.1 showing the response regarding the mechanical makeup of the text book

Table No. 2: showing the response of pre-service trainee teachers regarding font size & size of the text book

S. No.	Statement	Very Big	Big	Small	Very Small	Appropriate
6	Font size of printed letter on cover page	8%	25%	25%	--	42%
7	Size of text books	33%	17%	25%	--	25%

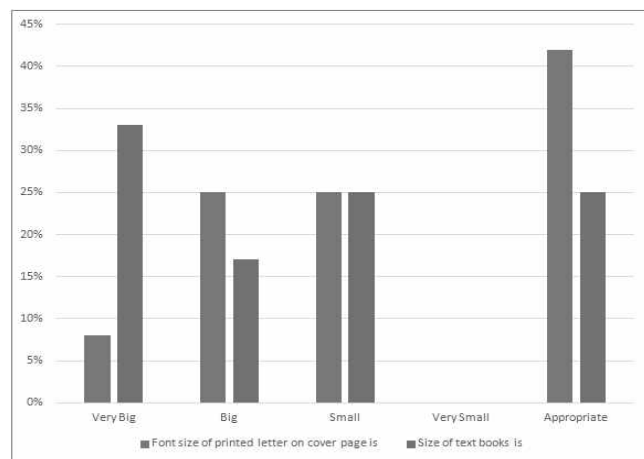


Figure 1.2 showing the response regarding font size and size of the book

Table No. 3: showing the response of pre-service trainee teachers regarding references given & pictures in the text book

Table 3: showing the response of pre-service trainee teachers regarding references given & pictures in the text book

S. No.	Statement	Sufficient	Very less	Less	More	Excessive
8	List of references in the book is	42%	33%	8%	17%	--
9	Glossary given in the book is	42%	--	17%	33%	8%
10	No. of chapters in the book is	17%	42%	8%	--	33%
11	Suggestions given for teachers is	33%	--	17%	42%	8%
12	Pictures provided with the content materials are	60%	7%	7%	26%	--

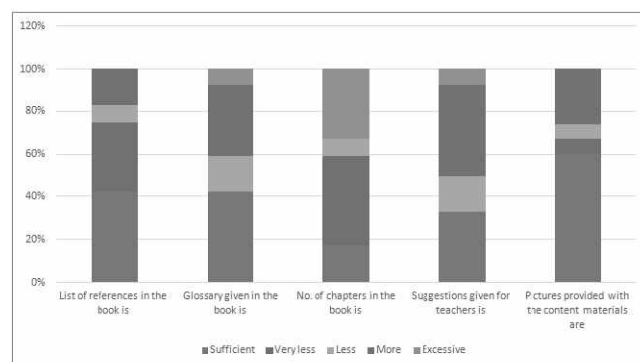


Figure 1.3 showing the response of pre-service trainee teachers regarding references given & pictures in the text book

Response of 15 In-service Teachers of DoE**Table No. 4:** showing the response of in-service teachers regarding the mechanical makeup of the text book

S. No.	Statement	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Can't say
1	Cover page of text book is beautiful & attractive	27%	33%	10%	--	30%
2	Picture on cover page is appropriate	60%	40%	--	--	--
3	Binding of the book is good	33%	47%	7%	--	13%
4	Quality of a printing of cover page is appropriate	27%	53%	--	--	20%
5	Title of book is according to the subject	33%	53%	4%	--	10%

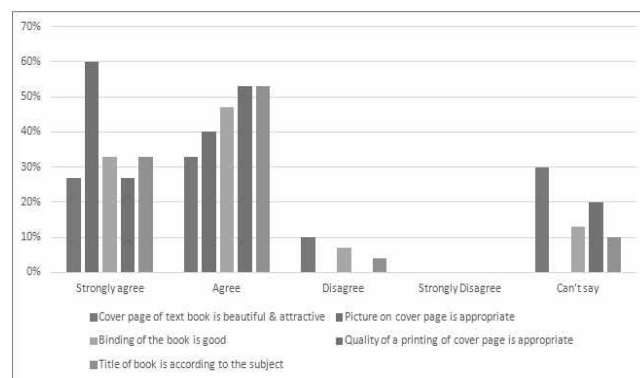


Figure 1.4 showing the response regarding the mechanical makeup of the text book

Table No. 5: showing the response of in-service teachers regarding font size & size of the text book

S. No.	Statement	Very Big	Big	Small	Very Small	Appropriate
6	Font size of printed letter on cover page is	27%	13%	--	--	60%
7	Size of text books is	40%	14%	--	--	46%

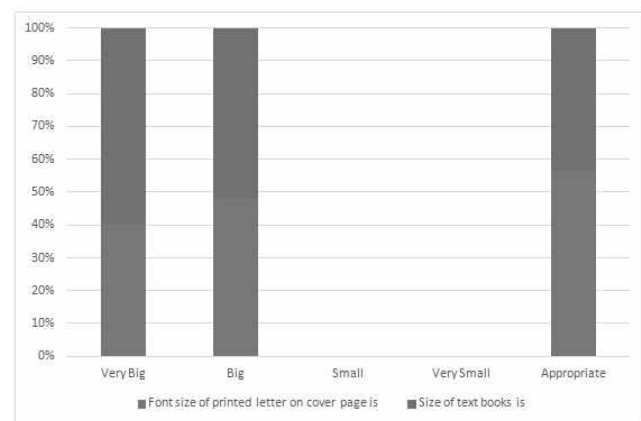


Figure 1.5 showing the response regarding font size and size of the book

Table No. 6: showing the response of in-service teachers regarding references given & pictures in the text book

S. No.	Statement	Sufficient	Very less	Less	More	Excessive
8	List of references in the book is	26%	7%	33%	20%	13%
9	Glossary given in the book is	53%	--	17%	21%	26%
10	No. of chapters in the book is	47%	7%	10%	26%	--
11	Suggestions given for teachers is	60%	--	33%	7%	--
12	Pictures provided with the content materials are	40%	--	33%	7%	20%

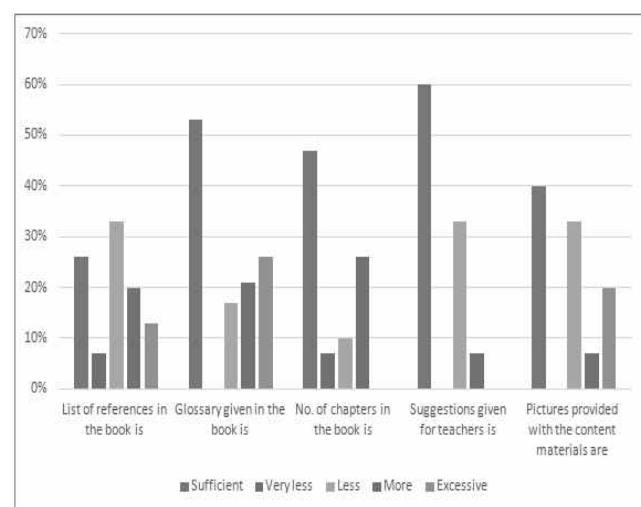


Figure 1.6 showing the response of in-service teachers regarding references given & pictures in the text book

Response of 109 Parents**Table No. 7:** showing the response of parents regarding the mechanical makeup of the text book

S. No.	Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Can't say
1	Cover page of text book is beautiful & attractive	38%	33%	8%	--	20%
2	Picture on cover page is appropriate	31%	41%	9%	5%	14%
3	Binding of the book is good	32%	34%	14%	8%	12%
4	Quality of a printing of cover page is appropriate	30%	34%	7%	4%	25%
5	Title of book is according to the subject	26%	43%	7%	6%	22%

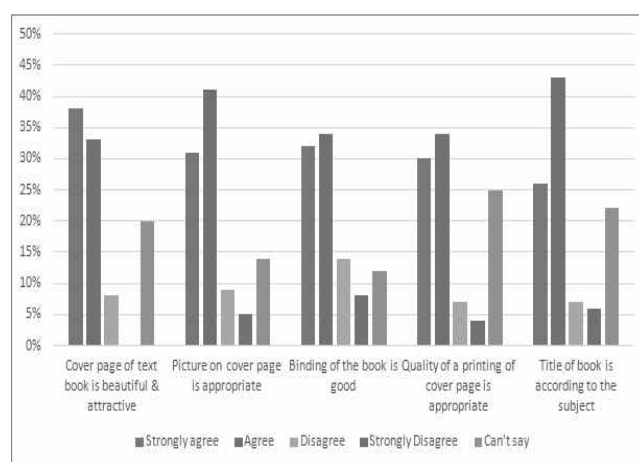


Figure 1.7 showing the response regarding the mechanical makeup of the text book

Table No. 8: showing the response of parents regarding font size & size of the text book

S. No.	Statement	Very Big	Big	Small	Very Small	Appropriate
6	Font size of printed letter on cover page is	12%	17%	3%	15%	53%
7	Size of text books is	15%	19%	5%	--	61%

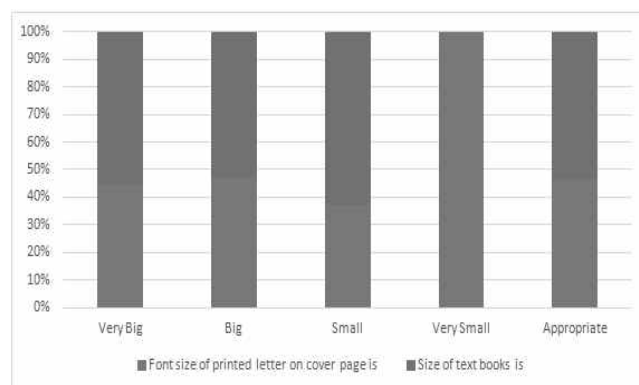
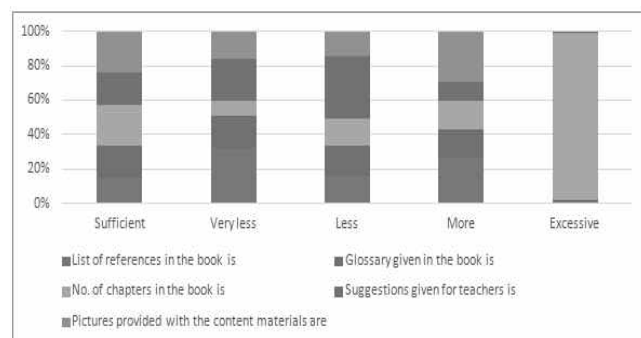


Figure 1.8 showing the response regarding font size and size of the book

Table No. 9: showing the response of parents regarding references given & pictures in the text book

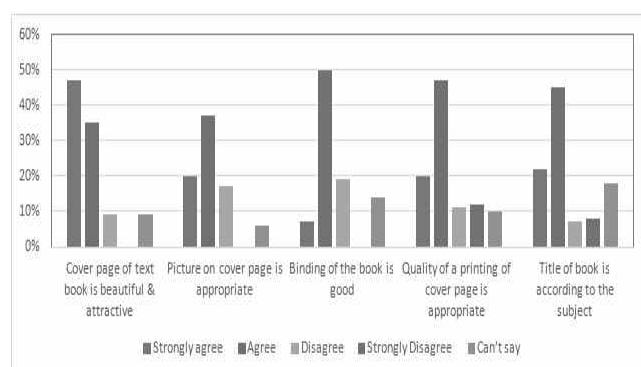
S. No.	Statement	Sufficient	Very less	Less	More	Excessive
8	List of references in the book is	24%	26%	12%	29%	9%
9	Glossary given in the book is	32%	15%	13%	18%	22%
10	No. of chapters in the book is	39%	7%	12%	18%	14%
11	Suggestions given for teachers is	30%	20%	27%	12%	11%
12	Pictures provided with the content materials are	40%	13%	11%	32%	4%

**Figure 1.9** showing the response of in-service teachers regarding references given & pictures in the text book

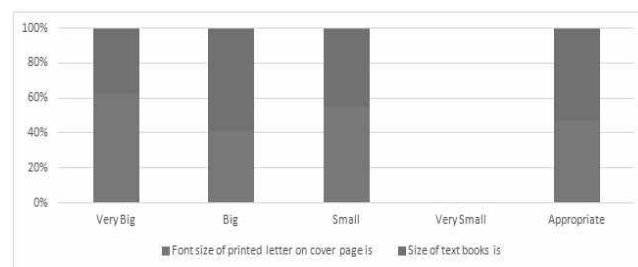
51 Students of Govt. Schools under DoE

Table No. 10: showing the response of students regarding the mechanical makeup of the text book

S. No.	Statement	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Can't say
1	Cover page of text book is beautiful & attractive	47%	35%	9%	--	9%
2	Picture on cover page is appropriate	20%	37%	17%	--	6%
3	Binding of the book is good	7%	50%	19%	--	14%
4	Quality of a printing of cover page is appropriate	20%	47%	11%	12%	10%
5	Title of book is according to the subject	22%	45%	7%	8%	18%

**Figure 1.10** showing the response of students regarding the mechanical makeup of the text book**Table No. 11:** showing the response of students regarding font size & size of the text book

S. No.	Statement	Very Big	Big	Small	Very Small	Appropriate
6	Font size of printed letter on cover page	30%	24%	11%	--	35%
7	Size of text book	18%	34%	9%	--	39%

**Figure 1.11** showing the response regarding font size and size of the book

Question-wise analysis is given below:

Question 1

As per the data of pre-service trainee teachers 50% strongly agree, 33% agree 17% disagree, whereas in case of In-service teachers 33% agree, 27% strongly agree, 10% disagree, 30% can't say. As per the response of parents 38% strongly agree, 8% disagree 33% agree and 20% can't say. In case of students 35% agree, 47% strongly agree, 9% disagree and 9% can't say.

Data shows that majority of pre-service trainee teachers, in-service teachers, parents, and students either strongly agree or agree with the statement that the cover page of textbook is beautiful and attractive.

Question 2

As highlighted by the analysis 25% pre-service trainee teachers strongly agree, 25% agree, 42% have opted can't say and 8% disagree whereas 60% of in-service teachers strongly agree, 40% agree. In case of parents 41% agree, 31% strongly agree, 14% can't say and 9% disagree and according to students 37% agree, 20% students strongly agree, 17% disagree and 6% can't say.

Data shows that maximum no. of parents, pre-service teacher trainees, in-service teachers and students strongly agree or agree with the statement that the picture on cover page is appropriate.

Question 3

In response of question no. 3, 42% in-service teacher trainees agree, 8% strongly agree, 33% disagree, 7% have opted can't say with the statement that binding of the book is good. 33% of in-service teachers strongly agree, 47% agree, 13% can't say, 7% disagree. In case of parents 34% parents agree, 32% strongly agree, 12% can't say. 14% disagree and 8% strongly disagree. 50% students agree, 7% strongly agree, 14% can't say, 19% disagree.

Above data shows that maximum no. of pre-service teachers, in-service teachers, students and parents agree with the statement so it can be concluded that binding of book is good.

Question 4

Regarding the printing of the cover page, 33% in-service trainee teachers strongly agree, 50% agree, 17% can't say whereas 53% of in-service teachers agree, 27% strongly agree, 20% can't say and parents as respondents 34% parents agree, 30% strongly agree, 25% can't say, 7% disagree, 4% strongly disagree whereas 47% students agree, 20% strongly agree, 20% strongly disagree, 11% disagree, 10% can't say.

The above data highlights that only 7% of total parents and 11% of total students disagree with the statement and 12% students strongly disagree with the statement whereas no pre-service teacher trainee or in-service teacher disagree with the statement. It shows that according to the majority of respondents quality of printing of cover page is appropriate.

Question 5

In response to the title of the book, 17% of pre-service trainee teachers strongly agree, 33% agree, 17% disagree, 5% can't say and 8% strongly agree whereas 53% in-service teachers agree, 33% strongly agree and 10% can't say, 7% disagree. 43% of parents agree, 26% strongly agree, 22% can't say, 7% disagree, 6% strongly disagree and 45% students agree, 22% strongly agree, 18% can't say, 7% disagree, 8% strongly disagree, **as per the analysis of data maximum no. of respondents agree with the statement. So it can be concluded that title of the textbook is according to the subject.**

Question 6

Regarding the size of font used on the cover page of the book, 42% pre-service trainee teachers says appropriate, 25% big, 25% small, 8% says very small. According to the in-service teachers 27% says very big, 60% says appropriate, 13% big whereas 53% of parents says appropriate, 3% says small, 17% big, 12% very big, 15% very small, 35% students is appropriate, 11% small, 24% big, 30% very big. **Maximum respondents have accepted that the font size of printed letter on the cover page is appropriate.**

Question 7

With respect of the size of the textbook, 33% pre-service trainee teacher says very big, 25% opted appropriate, 25% mentioned small and 17% marked big whereas 40% of in-service teachers says very big, 14% opted big, 46% have marked appropriate. According to parents, 61% of total parents have selected appropriate, 5% marked small, 19% opted for big, 15% mentioned very big whereas 39% students have said appropriate, 9% mentioned small, 34% opted for big, 18% have mentioned very big. **The analysis highlights that 33% pre-service trainee teachers and 40% in-service teachers have accepted that the size of text book is very big whereas maximum no. of parents and students said that the size of text book is appropriate.**

Question 8

Regarding the references in the text book 42% of pre-service trainee teachers marked that list of reference in the text book

is less, 33% selected the option very less, 8% marked sufficient, 17% opted more. According to the in-service teachers, 33% marked as less, 7% opted very less, 20% have selected more and 26% as sufficient and 13% opted excessive. 29% of parents have opted that it is very less, 26% have opted more and 12% marked less, 24% as sufficient, 9% have opted excessive.

Maximum no. of respondents have accepted that list of references in the text book is less.

Question 9

In response to the question 9, 42% of pre-service trainee teachers have selected that glossary in the text book is sufficient, 33% have marked more, 17% opted for less, & 8% for excessive. 53% in-service teachers have said that it is sufficient, 21% chosen more, 26% opted for excessive whereas 32% parents have said that it is sufficient, 13% opted for less, 15% for very less, 18% for more, 22% have opted excessive. **The data highlights that maximum no. of pre-service trainee teachers, in-service teachers, parents and students have accepted that glossary in the text book is sufficient.**

Question 10

The question was regarding the number of chapters in the book, 42% pre-service trainee teachers says that no. of chapter in book is sufficient, 33% excessive, 8% less, 17% very less whereas 47% of in-service teachers opted for sufficient, 7% very less, 10% less and 26% opted more. 39% of total parents mentioned sufficient, 17% for very less, 18% for more, 14% for excessive, 12% for less. **Thus the above data highlights maximum no. of teachers, trainee teachers & parents says that no. of chapters in the book is sufficient.**

Question 11

This question was regarding the suggestions given for teachers, 42% pre-service trainee teachers mentioned that suggestion given for teachers are more, 17% for less, 33% for sufficient, 8% for excessive. 60% of total in-service teachers says sufficient, 7% more, 33% less whereas 30% of total parents opted sufficient, 20% selected very less, 27% for less, 11% as excessive, 12% for more. **Maximum no. of pre-service trainee teachers, in-service teachers and parents said that suggestions given for teachers in the text books are sufficient.**

Question 12

With regard to the number of pictures provided with the content, 26% of pre-service trainee teachers chosen that pictures provided with the content material are more 60% said sufficient, 7% mentioned very less, 7% opted less whereas 40% in-service teachers said sufficient, 7% mentioned more, 33% marked for less, 20% as excessive. 40% parents said sufficient, 11% opted less, 13% mentioned very less, 32% said more, 4% as excessive. Maximum of the respondents said that pictures provided with the content materials in text book is sufficient.

VI. MAJOR FINDINGS

From the above analysis it can be concluded that the cover page of text book is beautiful & attractive. Picture on the

cover page is appropriate, binding of the book is good, cover page of book is appropriate, title of book is according to the subject, size of text book is appropriate and the font size is printed letter on cover page is also appropriate.

In context of the content and references of text book, data shows that list of references in the text book is less. Whereas glossary in the text book is sufficient, no of chapters in the text book is sufficient, suggestions for teachers in the text book are also sufficient and the pictures provide with the content materials in the text book are also sufficient.

VII. CONCLUSION

It is clear from the above analysis that the Hindi text book of class 4 fulfills various parameters of a good text book. It is helpful in promoting the knowledge of the student and it helpful in fulfilling the objectives of education as well as based on the psychological needs and interest of students. This text book is effective in developing LSRW skills (Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing) but all-round development of the students.

VIII. REFERENCES

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