

Literacy

97. SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA:
Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state whether the percentage of literacy has not been in-

creased at a rapid rate in the country?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): The percentage of literacy has been increasing in the country as the following figures would show:—

Age group	Literacy Percentage :		
	1951 Census	1961 Census	1971 Census
5+	18.31	28.30	34
15+	19.26	27.76	34.08

Implementation of Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act

98. SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA:
Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the latest position in regard to the implementation of Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act of 1976;

(b) whether the present Government are not implementing the provisions of the Act;

(c) if so, the main reasons; and

(d) whether Government propose to abolish this Act?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): (a) The Urban Land (Ceiling and Regulation) Act, 1976, is in force in 17 States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal and all the Union territories.

(b) The Act is already under implementation in the States to which it is applicable and all the Union territories. The action taken is as follows:—

- (i) Competent authorities, Urban Land Tribunals and Appellate Authorities have been appointed.
- (ii) Notices regarding transfer of vacant land held within the ceiling limit have been and are being, processed under section 26 of the Act.
- (iii) Applications for previous permissions for transfer of urban property under Section 27 of the Act have been, and are being, processed and permission granted.
- (iv) High level Coordination Committees have been appointed for watching the implementation of the Act.
- (v) Survey of vacant lands is being made.
- (vi) Action to divide the urban agglomerations into various zones for the purpose of determining the rate of amount to be paid for excess vacant land is being taken.