

CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL) : (a) The literacy rate in Orissa according to 1981 census is 34.23 per cent. A statement on literacy rate in the State of Orissa compared to other States is attached.

(b) The programmes for Universalisation of Elementary Education for children in the age group 6-14 and removal of adult illiteracy in the age group 15-35 with special emphasis on enrolment of girls and women have been included in the Minimum Needs Programme and the New Twenty Point Programme of the Government.

STATEMENTS

State/Union Territory	1981 Percentage literates to total population
INDIA	36.23
1. Andhra Pradesh	29.94
2. Assam	@
3. Bihar	26.20
4. Gujarat	43.70
5. Haryana	36.14
6. Himachal Pradesh	42.48
7. Jammu & Kashmir	26.67
8. Karnataka	38.46
9. Kerala	70.42
10. Madhya Pradesh	27.87
11. Maharashtra	47.18
12. Manipur	41.35
13. Meghalaya	34.08
14. Nagaland	42.57
15. Orissa	34.23
16. Punjab	40.86
17. Rajasthan	24.38
18. Sikkim	34.05
19. Tamil Nadu	46.76
20. Tripura	42.12
21. Uttar Pradesh	27.16
22. West Bengal	40.94
23. A & N Islands	51.56
24. Arunachal Pradesh	20.79
25. Chandigarh	64.79

@ Census could not take due to disturbed conditions.

26. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	26.67
27. Delhi	61.54
28. Goa, Daman & Diu	56.66
29. Lakshadweep	55.07
30. Mizoram	59.88
31. Pondicherry	55.85

Connecting Balurghat with Railway

1894. SHRI PALAS BARMAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that he had assured the People of Balurghat that Balurghat will be connected with Railways soon ;

(b) if so, by what time ; and

(c) details of the survey report in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI) : (a) No categorical assurance was given, as the project is required to be cleared by the Planning Commission still.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A Preliminary Engineering-cum-Traffic survey for a BG line from Eklakhi to Balurghat was carried out in 1982. As per survey report the project would involve construction of 90.56 Kms. of new BG rail line at an estimated cost of Rs. 36.38 crores.

J.N.U. Panel Report

1895. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to states :

(a) whether the J.N.U. panel (Central University Review Committee) submitted the report ; and

(b) if not, when the committee is likely to submit its report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL) : (a) No, Sir.