

only Delhi, A. & N. Island and Chandigarh have necessary legislation.

2. Education is free in Classes I-VII/VIII (age group 6-14) in the following States and Union Territories :-

1. Andhra Pradesh.
2. Gujarat.
3. Haryana.
4. Himachal Pradesh.
5. Jammu and Kashmir.
6. Kerala.
7. Madhya Pradesh.
8. Maharashtra.
9. Mysore.
10. Nagaland.
11. Orissa.
12. Punjab.
12. Rajasthan.
14. Tamil Nadu.
15. All Union Territories.

3. Girls receive free education in classes I-VII/VIII in the following States :-

1. Assam and Meghalaya.
2. Bihar.
3. Uttar Pradesh.
4. West Bengal.

4. Boys receive free education in classes I-V (age group 6-11) in the following States :-

1. Assam and Meghalaya.
2. Bihar.
3. Uttar Pradesh.
4. West Bengal (in rural areas and selected towns only).

**Literacy among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes**

778. SHRI K. S. CHAVDA :  
SHRI M. RAM GOPAL  
RERJDDY :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHIKSHA AUR SAMAJ KALYAN MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of literacy in India and among scheduled castes and scheduled tribes separately as per latest census in the country ; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to increase the literacy in the country and among the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHIKSHA AUR SAMAJ KALYAN MANTRALAYA MEN UP MANTRI) (SHRI D. P. YADAVA). (a) According to 'Census of India' 1971—"Provisional Population Totals", literacy rate in India is as below :-

Literacy Rate : Total : 29.35%

Male : 39.49%

Females : 18.47%

The percentage of literacy among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes separately, as per 1971 Census is not at present available. According to the Census of 1961, the percentage of literacy was as follows :-

Scheduled Castes : 10.27%

Scheduled Tribes : 8.54%

(b) Literacy is promoted mainly through two programmes :

(1) spread of primary education and

(2) promotion of literacy among adults.

In so far as primary education is concerned, we have been able to enrol about 80% of the children in the age-group 6-11. By the end of the Fourth Plan, this proportion is expected to rise to 87%.

In the Fourth Five-Year Plan, emphasis is being laid on two programmes :

(1) Special efforts to enrol non-attending children which mostly consist of girls, children of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and children of economically handicapped social groups like landless agricultural labourers ;

(2) Reduction of wastage and stagnation which are very high at present.

It is expected that as a result of these two programmes the contribution of primary education to the promotion of literacy would be significantly greater.

In so far as promotion of literacy among adults is concerned, the present allocations in the Fourth Five-Year Plan are very limited, especially in the State sector. The Government of India is,

therefore, considering the launching of a major programme for liquidating illiteracy, whose target will be to make about 10 million adults literate during the remaining period of the Fourth Plan. The scheme is now under active consideration.

Government realise that literacy among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is low and special efforts are, therefore, being made to promote primary education as well as adult literacy among those groups. In so far as primary education is concerned, the special incentives extended to children of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes include free supply of books, stationery, mid-day meals and even clothing to a fair proportion of students. For the children of the Scheduled Tribes, there is a special scheme of Ashram schools which provide residential accommodation and education. In so far as adult literacy work is concerned, programme of literacy classes for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are given a priority.

#### Financial position of Delhi Transport Undertaking during 1970-71

779. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (NAUWAHAN AUR PARIWAHAN MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) what is the profit made or loss incurred by the Delhi Transport Undertaking during 1970-71; and

(b) the measures Government have taken to improve the functioning of the DTU and to make it a profitable concern ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING & TRANSPORT (SANSADIYA KARYA TATHA NAUWAHAN AUR PARIWAHAN MANTRI) (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a). According to the provisional figures furnished by the General Manager,