

(c) whether the Government propose to take any steps to literate them particularly to literate the illiterates of Balsad district of Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per 1991 census there are 32.89 crore illiterates in the age-group of 7 and above. State-wise number of illiterates is given in a Statement attached.

(c) and (d) Adult Education under the National Literacy Mission, Universalisation of Elementary Education and Non-Formal Education for school drop-outs constitute a three-pronged strategy to improve literacy throughout the country. The total literacy campaign which is the principal strategy of the National Literacy Mission for eradication of illiteracy, has been launched in 423 districts of the country.

Balsad district has been sanctioned Total Literacy Campaign in November 1993 to cover a target of 1.49 lakh illiterates in the age-group of 9-35 years. After completion of TLC a two years Post Literacy Campaign has been sanctioned to the district in Dec., 1996 to cover 1.43 lakh neoliterates in the age-group of 9-35 years.

**Statement**

S.No.	Name of the State/UT's	No. of illiterates in lakhs
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	310.56
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3.98
3.	Assam	84.76
4.	Bihar	422.07
5.	Goa	2.53
6.	Gujarat	133.48
7.	Haryana	58.90
8.	Himachal Pradesh	15.65
9.	Karnataka	164.86
10.	Kerala	25.75
11.	Madhya Pradesh	296.24
12.	Maharashtra	229.86
13.	Manipur	6.14
14.	Meghalaya	7.03
15.	Mizoram	1.00
16.	Nagaland	3.84
17.	Orissa	133.96
18.	Punjab	70.44
19.	Rajasthan	215.97
20.	Sikkim	1.43
21.	Tamil Nadu	180.75
22.	Tripura	8.94
23.	Uttar Pradesh	647.69

1	2	3
24.	West Bengal	239.06
25.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.63
26.	Chandigarh	1.21
27.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.65
28.	Daman & Diu	0.25
29.	Delhi	19.31
30.	Lakshadweep	0.08
31.	Pondicherry	1.76
		<b>3288.78</b>

Information – excluding Jammu & Kashmir.

[English]

**Almatti Dam**

1477. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :  
SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH :  
SHRI K.S. RAYADU :  
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Supreme Court has recently issued some directions to Union Government and concerned State Governments regarding Almatti Dam issue;

(b) if so, details thereof and the action being taken thereon;

(c) whether the Union Government have also constituted any expert panel or committee to resolve the controversy involved in Almatti Dam issue;

(d) the steps taken by the panel so far in resolving the issue and the time by which the panel would submit its report; and

(e) whether the recommendations of the expert panel/committee would be binding on all the concerned parties ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Union Government have not constituted any Expert Panel or Committee to resolve the controversy involved in Almatti Dam issue.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

**Plague at Surat**

1478. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :  
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the precise reasons that caused plague at Surat have since been ascertained;