

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5680  
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2000  
LITERACY RATE OF VISUALLY HANDICAPPED  
JASWANT SINGH YADAV

**Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether literacy rate of visually handicapped persons has been declined during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to literate the visually handicapped persons during 2000- 2001 ?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL)

(a) to (c) : Separate data indicating literacy rates of visually handicapped persons are not available.

However, opportunities for literacy of persons with visual disability ha been increased through special schools, integrated schools and distant education. At present, the National Institute o f Visually Handicapped, Dehradun is also running/supporting 13 Teachers Training Centres (4 at secondary level and 9 at Primary level). Seven more centers are likely to be added from the session 2000-2001. In addition, the voluntary organizations are also being financially assisted under the scheme to provide Voluntary Action for Persons with Disabilities for running special schools, apart from other activities for rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.