

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3509

ANSWERED ON:23.12.2008

ILLITERACY AMONG TRIBALS

Agarwal Shri Dharendra;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

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

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to eradicate illiteracy among the tribals;
- (b) the success achieved by the Government-in this regard; and
- (c) the progress made in eradicating illiteracy in the country during the last three years, State-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI M.A.A. FATMI)

(a) The steps taken to eradicate illiteracy in the country,including tribals are as under:

(i) Literacy programmes of the National Literacy Mission are implemented for imparting literacy to all illiterates in 15-35 age group.The Central and State share financial assistance under Total Literacy Campaign (TLC), Post Literacy Programme(PLP) and Project for Residual Illiteracy (PRI) to tribal districts is in the ratio 4:1 as against 2 : 1 in the case of general districts.

(ii) Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, 74 districts with more than 25% tribal concentration have been identified for focused targeting including inter-alia opening of new primary schools/upper primary schools,construction of primary and upper primary buildings and additional class rooms.Moreover,612 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) have been sanctioned in ST Blocks.Under the National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level(NPEGEL),special focus is given to education of girls from ST communities in 637 blocks of 161 districts.In addition,Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing Schemes of construction of Hostels for ST boys and girls, Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub-Plan Areas, Strengthening education among Scheduled Tribes Girls in low literacy districts and Eklavya Model Residential Schools from class VI to class XII.These initiatives are expected to arrest the influx of ST persons into the pool of adult illiterates.

(b) & (c) The literacy data in the country is collected during the decennial census conducted by Registrar General of India. The literacy rate of Scheduled Tribes increased from 29.6% in 1991 to 47.10% in 2001 showing an increase of 17.5%. The progress in the current decade will be known during census 2011.