

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3191
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2010
LITERACY RATE AMONG MINORITIES
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Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details regarding the literacy rate of the minority communities starting from primary education up to degree level for the past three years;
- (b) the details regarding the literacy rate of minority communities especially Muslims while comparing with the total literacy rate of the country; and
- (c) the details regarding the literacy programme being run by the Government to improve the rate of literacy among minorities of the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a) As per the report of the National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities (NCRLM) the information regarding educational levels among minority communities based on 2001 Census is given in the table below:-

Community	Upto Primary Level	Primary Secondary	Middle Secondary	Senior Secondary	Diploma	Graduation	Unclassified
Muslims	65.31	15.14	10.96	4.53	0.41	3.6	0.05
Christians	45.79	17.13	17.48	8.7	2.19	8.71	0.01
Sikhs	46.70	16.93	20.94	7.57	0.90	6.94	0.02
Buddhists	54.69	17.52	14.09	7.65	0.35	5.7	0.01
Others	62.12	17.48	11.24	4.55	0.26	4.35	0.01

Includes literacy without Educational Level, Below Primary Level and Primary Level.

(b) Community wise literacy rate, as compared with national average, is given in the table below:

Communities Literacy rate in percentage

Muslims 59.1

Christians 80.3

Sikhs 69.4

Buddhists 72.7

Others 47.0

National Average 64.84

(Source 2001 Census)

(c) Under the scheme of Saakshar Bharat, targets have been fixed taking into account the total population of minorities and also their share of the non-literate population for raising the level of literacy.