

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3983
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2010
LITERACY RATE
Patel Shri Devji

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

- (a) the present literacy rate of urban, semi-urban and rural areas of the country;
- (b) whether there is wide gap between urban and rural literacy rate in the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the various literacy programmes launched to reduce the urban and rural divide has not yielded results; and
- (e) if so, the corrective measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

- (a) to (c): As per the Census 2001, the literacy rate in 7+ age group was 79.92% and 58.74% in the urban and rural areas respectively, showing a gap of 21.18% between urban and rural literacy rates in the country.
- (d) & (e): Because of the various literacy and educational programmes of the Government, the gap in literacy rate between rural and urban areas in the country decreased from 28.39% in 1991 to 21.18% in 2001. To reduce this gap further, the Government have launched Saakshar Bharat, a new variant of the National Literacy Mission, exclusively for rural areas of the districts that have adult female literacy of 50% or below.