

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:241
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2010
EDUCATION LEVEL OF TRIBALS
Singh Shri Jagada Nand

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the level of literacy of tribal communities is relatively low as compared to the other communities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the amount of funds provided and utilized for education of tribal population during the last three years and the current year State-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve the literacy level of tribals?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO 241 FOR 26-11-2010

(a) Yes Madam

(b) The details as per 2001 census figure are as below

Literacy Rate		
Total Population(%)	ST Population(%)	Gap (%)

64.8	47.1	17.7
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The reasons for low level of literacy among ST Population are geographical isolation, inadequate infrastructure and economic backwardness.

(c) & d) In order to improve the literacy and education level of tribals, Ministry of Tribal Affairs supplements the efforts of Ministry of Human Resources Development through following schemes

(i) Scheme of Hostels for ST Girls and Boys.

(ii) Scheme of Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Areas.

(iii) Post-Matric Scholarship for ST students.

(iv) Scheme of Strengthening Education among Scheduled Tribe (ST) Girls in Low Literacy Districts.

(v) Grants- in -aid to Voluntary Organizations Working for the Welfare of STs (under which residential, non-residential schools, run by NGOs for ST students are also supported, apart from other projects of NGOs)

(vi) Grants under Article 275(1) (setting up of Eklavya Model Residential Schools from class VI to XII for ST students is a component under this scheme).

(vii) Upgradation of Merit of ST students.

(viii) Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for STs

(ix) Scheme of National Overseas Scholarship for STs

(x) Top Class Education for ST students

Funds released to State Governments under the schemes

(i) to
(vii) during the last three years and the current year are indicated in the statement attached as Annexure-I to this question. During 2009-10 States were provided funds from Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for construction of Hostels and Ashram Schools in naxal-affected districts. This amount is included in Annexure-I. In addition funds are released directly to beneficiaries under the following schemes:-

(i) Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for STs

(ii) Scheme of National Overseas Scholarship for STs

(iii) Top Class Education for ST Students

The details of funds released under these schemes are indicated in the statement attached as Annexure II.

The release of grants for the subsequent year is subject to utilisation of funds released earlier.