

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2112
ANSWERED ON:12.08.2011
LITERACY RATE IN NORTH-EASTERN STATES
Toppo Shri Joseph

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the level of literacy of tribal communities is relatively low in North Eastern States, particularly in Assam as compared to the other communities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the funds sanctioned, released for education of tribal population during the last three years and the current year for the North-Eastern Region, State-wise and year-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the literacy level of tribals in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MAHADEO SINGH KHANDELA)

- (a) The literacy rates of STs in North-Eastern States is comparatively low, except in the case of Mizoram.
- (b) The details in respect of literacy rates in North-Eastern States, as per available information, are given below.

Sl. No. Name of State Literacy Rate as per 2001 census Gap in Literacy Rate
ST population Total population

1. Arunachal Pradesh 54.3 49.6 4.7

2. Assam 63.3 62.5 0.8

3. Manipur 70.5 65.9 4.6

4. Meghalaya 62.6 61.3 1.3

5. Mizoram 88.8 89.3 0.5

6. Nagaland 66.6 65.9 0.7

7. Tripura 73.2 56.5 16.5

Reasons for lower literacy rate among tribals are attributable to the social and economic backwardness of STs.

(c) The details of funds released by this Ministry to the North-East States are given at Annexure - I.

(d) Apart from the various schemes implemented by the Ministry of Human Resources Development for spreading of education in rural areas, including the tribal areas, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs implements specific schemes to provide education and related facilities for STs in the country. Details of funds released by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs under various schemes for education of STs are given at Annexure - II.