

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:35
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2011
NATIONAL LITERACY MISSION
Adityanath Shri Yogi;Rao Shri Kavuri Samba Siva

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has recently reviewed the functioning of the National Literacy Mission (NLM);
- (b) if so, the outcome of the review;
- (c) the actual literacy rate among men and women in the urban and rural areas in each State/ U.T.;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to revitalise the organisational set up for the effective implementation of the Mission;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the country is far from reaching the target of 100 percent literacy; and
- (g) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which the said target is likely to be achieved?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (g) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (g) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 35 FOR 23.11.2011 ASKED BY SHRI YOGI ADITYA NATH AND SHRI DR. K.S. RAO REGARDING NATIONAL LITERACY MISSION.

(a) & (b) Since the launch of Saakshar Bharat, the new variant of the National Literacy Mission, in September 2009, the Mission has been sanctioned in 372 districts and its functioning is regularly reviewed. As per the recent review held in October 2011, the functioning of the programme in West Bengal, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, Assam, Haryana, Punjab, Odisha, and Jammu & Kashmir has been found to be below par.

(c) A statement indicating State/ UT wise literacy rate among men and women in the urban and rural areas, as per the provisional data of census 2011 is annexed.

(d) & (e) The Working Group on Elementary Education and Literacy set up by the Planning Commission has recommended that the mandate of existing structures, including National Literacy Mission Authority at the apex level, the State Literacy Mission Authorities at the State level and the Lok Shiksha Samitis at the District, Block and the Gram Panchayat levels, as well as the resource support bodies, need remodeling and strengthening in consonance with the new scope of adult education. They also need redesigning and reinforcement in functional autonomy, qualified manpower and infrastructure with a dedicated professional cadre of educators and managers.

(f) Government had set the target of achieving 80% literacy by the end of 11th Five Year Plan (2012). Census 2011 has reported 74.04 percent literacy in the country.

(g) Accumulated high levels of residual non-literacy among adults in the age group of 15 and beyond, especially among Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Minorities, disadvantaged groups and adolescents, is the biggest challenge faced in achieving literacy targets. Plan wise targets are being fixed to achieve higher levels of literacy in a phased manner.