

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1241

ANSWERED ON:21.03.2012

SAAKSHAR BHARAT

Badal Harsimrat Kaur;Haque Shri Sk. Saidul;Katoch Smt. Chandresh Kumari;Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Radha Mohan

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

- (a) whether Saakshar Bharat Mission is specially designed to benefit the Women and other belonging to disadvantaged groups;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the gender-wise number of illiterate in each State/Union Territory at present; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Union Government to improve the literary rate among women and the disadvantaged sectors of the society ?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Yes sir. The principal target of Saakshar Bharat Mission is to impart functional literacy to adults in the age group of 15 years and beyond with prime focus on women besides SCs, STs, Minorities & other disadvantaged groups in rural areas of the districts having low female literacy rate (50% or below as per 2001 Census). The mission also provides opportunities to the neo literate adults (a) to continue their learning beyond basic literacy and acquire equivalency to formal educational system; (b) for imparting relevant skill development and (c) for continuing education.

(c) A statement indicating gender wise number of illiterates in each State /Union Territory, as per Provisional data of 2011 Census is annexed.

(d) In order to improve the literacy rate, the Government of India is implementing the Saakshar Bharat Programme to provide literacy and continuing education to persons in the 15+ age group specially women. In addition, the Government is implementing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan simultaneously under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 for universalization of Elementary Education for children in the 6-14 age groups. In order to bring momentum and creating conducive environment for mobilizing learners, nationwide media campaign for Saakshar Bharat are being organized including Saakshar Bharat yatras for overcoming socio cultural barrier among women and disadvantaged sectors of the society and thus imploring access and equity.