

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6608

ANSWERED ON:16.05.2012

WOMEN LITERACY

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

- (a) whether literacy rates in various States are evaluated/assessed annually and if so, the details of such rates during each of the last three years, gender-wise, State-wise and rural/urban areas-wise;
- (b) whether the literacy rate in rural areas has not improved in spite of significant spendings;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefore; and
- (d) the steps being taken to improve the literacy rate in rural areas and of women across the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI E. AHAMED)

- (a): No Sir. There is no practice of evaluating/assessing literacy rates in various States annually.
- (b): No Sir. Literacy rate in rural areas has increased by 10.17 percentage points during the last decade i.e from 58.74% in 2001 to 68.91% in 2011.
- (c): Question does not arise.
- (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 is organized to overcome socio cultural barrier among women.