

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6928  
ANSWERED ON:18.05.2012  
LITERACY AND HEALTH INDICATORS  
Dhurve Jyoti

**Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the gap between literacy rates and health indicators for tribals vis-a-vis general category has widened;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to bridge this gap?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b) (i) The gap in the literacy rates for tribals in comparison to general category (1961-2001) is given below.

Table 1: Literacy Rate of General, and ST Population (1961-2001)

Year	All Social Groups	ST
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1961	28.30	8.53
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1971	34.45	11.30
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1981	43.57	16.35
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1991	52.21	29.60
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2001	64.84	47.10
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Source: Registrar General of India

(ii) Health indicators are given in the annexure.

(c) In order to improve the literacy level of students belonging to the Scheduled Tribe communities, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs is implementing the education oriented schemes which include Post-Matric Scholarships for ST students, Hostels for ST girls and boys, establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Areas, upgradation of Merit, Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for ST students, top class education for ST students and National Overseas Scholarship for ST students. These are supplementary to the efforts made by the Ministry of Human Resource Development.