

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4361

ANSWERED ON:19.12.2012

SCIENCE LITERACY

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Yadav Shri Dharmendra;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the development of science communication and science literacy in the country has taken a backseat in the last two decades with gradual withdrawal of State support and increased dependence on private sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the country is lagging behind our neighbouring countries in the global movement to promote science literacy among citizens;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has conducted national surveys on scientific literacy; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government to boost science literacy in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (S. JAIPAL REDDY)

- (a) No, Madam. With a view to develop the scientific temper, Government of India has been consistently working in the domain of science communication and promotion of science literacy in our country. Over the last two decades, with the diffusion of more and more State funds, science communication in India has not only emerged as a well recognised and well established discipline but has also acquired an ever increasing momentum in our multi- lingual and culturally diverse country.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No Madam.
- (d) Does not arise.
- (e) No Madam.
- (f) Does not arise.