

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:564  
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2013  
ADULT EDUCATION  
J Helen Davidson

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to change/revamp adult education system in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, whether the percentage of adult literacy is upto the achievable target;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to achieve the target of 100 per cent literacy in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) & (b) : The 12th Plan document recognises the need to redefine literacy and the need for a paradigm shift from basic literacy to lifelong learning which, inter alia, entails all learning activities undertaken throughout life - whether in formal, non-formal or informal settings with the aim of improving knowledge, skill and competence within the personal, civic, social and employment - related perspectives .

(c) & (d) : As per the 12th Plan document of the Planning Commission, the target is to raise the literacy rate to 80% and reduce the gender gap to less than 10% during the 12th Plan.

(e) : The Government has enacted The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 for the universalisation of elementary education and revamped the National Literacy Mission in 2009 as the Saakshar Bharat Mission in order to achieve 100% literacy in the Country.