

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2183
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2009
LITERACY IN TRIBALS
Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram

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

- (a) Whether the illiteracy rate of tribals is high in the country;
- (b) if so, the number of tribals who are illiterate in the country at present, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to launch a literacy programme for the tribals keeping in view the widespread illiteracy among them;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) Whether the Maharashtra Government have sent any proposal to the Union Government seeking financial assistance for the literacy programme for the tribals;
- (f) If so, the details thereof; and
- (g) The details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

- (a): Yes, Sir.
- (b): A statement showing number of Scheduled Tribe (ST) illiterates in the country as per the Census 2001 is annexed.
- (c) & (d): No, Sir. However, the Saakshar Bharat, an Adult Literacy Programme launched on 8.9.2009 does focus on illiterate women, SC/ST and other minorities in the country to make them literate in a time bound manner. The programme encompasses functional literacy, skill development, equivalency programme and life long learning opportunities through continuing education. To encourage adults to join the literacy campaign, the entire cost of the teaching learning material and literacy teaching will be met by the Government. The programme also provides for environment building and mass mobilization to motivate the non-literates to join the literacy campaign.
- (e), (f) & (g): No specific proposal have been received from the Government of Maharashtra for improving the literacy of ST population only.