

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:909
ANSWERED ON:16.07.2014
SAAKSHAR BHARAT
Antony Shri Anto

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

- (a) the salient features of the `Saakshar Bharat Mission`;
- (b) the criteria for selection of districts in the States for implementing the scheme under the mission;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to amend the Existing criteria of `Saakshar Bharat` for including Kerala to support the literacy programmes of that State; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

- (a) Saakshar Bharat, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, launched on 8.9.2009, aims to promote and strengthen Adult Education, specially of women, by extending educational options to those adults who having lost the opportunity of access to formal education and crossed the standard age for receiving such education, now feel a need for learning of any type, including, literacy, basic education, vocational education and continuing education in 15 plus age group. The main goal of the scheme is to raise the literacy rate of the country to 80% and reduce the gender gap to 10 percentage points by the end of XIIth Five Year Plan by covering 70 million adult non-literates under basic literacy with prime focus on women, SCs, STs, Minorities & other disadvantaged groups in rural areas.
- (b) A district, including a new district carved out of an erstwhile district that had an adult female literacy rate of 50 percent or below, as per the 2001 census, is eligible for coverage under the Saakshar Bharat programme. In addition, left-wing extremism-affected districts, irrespective of their literacy rate, are also eligible for coverage under the programme.
- (c) No Madam.
- (d) The question does not arise.