

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6658

ANSWERED ON:06.05.2015

UNESCO GLOBAL EDUCATION REPORT

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

- (a) whether India has achieved significantly in primary and secondary education while lagging behind in reducing adult illiteracy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor including the steps taken or being taken by the Government to address the issue;
- (c) whether as per UNESCO global education report, gross enrolment ratio in pre-primary education touched 58% in 2012 as compared to 19% in 1999; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the key findings of the report and the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): The UNESCO, Education For All (EFA) Global Monitoring Report (GMR) 2015 indicates that the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in primary education in India has increased from 96% in 1999 to 113% in 2012. At the secondary level the GER has increased from 44% in 1999 to 69% in 2012. The adult literacy rate (15 and over) has improved from 61% for the period 1995-2004 to 63% for 2005-2012 with a projected 71% for 2015. Country's adult literacy rate as per Census 2011 is 69.28%. A large number of population is still illiterate due to various factors including poverty, gender and social category inequities, etc.

Saakshar Bharat, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Adult Education and Skill Development, is being implemented since October, 2009 for promotion of adult literacy with special focus on women, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Minorities and other disadvantaged groups. Rural areas of 410 districts that had adult female literacy rate of 50 per cent or below as per Census, 2001 including 35 left-wing extremism-affected districts, in 26 States and one Union Territory are being covered under the programme.

(c): Yes, Madam. As per statistical Table-3B annexed with EFA GMR 2015, the GER in pre-primary education has significantly improved from 19% in 1999 to 58% in 2012.

(d): Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) is a part of Integrated Child Development Scheme which is implemented through the platform of Anganwadi Centres (AWC) by the Ministry of Women and Child Development across the country.