

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:38  
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2015  
National Literacy Mission  
Paswan Shri Chirag;Singh Shri Sunil Kumar

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

- (a) whether the targets set under the National Literacy Mission have been achieved;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor along with the current literacy rate in the country and the total number of illiterate population recorded as per the last census, State/UT, gender-wise and category-wise;
- (c) the details of the funds allocated/disbursed for the National Literacy Mission and for eradicating illiteracy in the country during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (d) the details of the steps taken/being taken by the Government to assist States where the literacy rate is below the national average along with funds allocated to them during the said period, State-wise; and
- (e) the steps taken to improve the literacy rate in the country in a time bound manner?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 38 FOR 22.7.2015 ASKED BY SHRI CHIRAG PASWAN AND SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH REGARDING "NATIONAL LITERACY MISSION".

(a) & (b) The targets set under the National Literacy Mission are to raise the literacy to 80 percent and to reduce gender gap in literacy to 10 percentage points by the end of the Twelfth Five Year Plan. The last Census 2011 reported the literacy rate as 72.98% and the gender gap of 16.25 percentage points.

14 States/UTs have already achieved or exceeded the literacy rate of 80%. These States/UTs are: Kerala, Lakshadweep, Mizoram, Goa, Tripura, Daman & Diu, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, NCT of Delhi, Chandigarh, Puducherry, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Sikkim and Tamil Nadu.

10 States/UTs have been able to reduce the gender gap to 10 percentage points or less. These States/UTs are Punjab, Chandigarh, Nagaland, Mizoram, Tripura, Meghalaya, Goa, Lakshadweep, Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Other States/UTs have not achieved the two targets at the time of the 2011 Census because of state specific reasons, large level of residual illiteracy and low female literacy.

The current literacy rate in the country and the total number of illiterates recorded as per the Census 2011, State/UT, gender-wise and category-wise are at Annexure-I and Annexure-II respectively.

(c) The details of the funds allocated/disbursed under Saakshar Bharat Scheme, the new variant of the National Literacy Mission, for eradicating illiteracy in the country during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise, is at Annexure-III.

(d) & (e) The Government of India is helping the States to bring all children into schools through the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan apart from implementing Saakshar Bharat Programme for adults. The two interventions have focus on equity, access and quality along with wide scale mass mobilization and awareness, community participation, capacity building and teachers' training.

To give impetus to literacy in States with comparatively lower literacy levels, Saakshar Bharat Scheme is concentrated on districts where the adult literacy levels are much below the national average. All districts, that had adult female literacy of 50% or below (as per 2001 Census), are coverable under the scheme. The State/UT-wise details of funds sanctioned during the last three years and the current year, are at Annexure-III.

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