GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4331
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2016
National Literacy Mission
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the targets achieved out of the set targets under the National Literacy Mission in all the States in the country including Gujarat during the current Five Year Plan;
- (b) the details of the funds sanctioned and incurred on the National Literacy Mission during the last two years including current year, State/UT and year-wise, including Jharkhand;
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the said Mission along with the expenditure likely to be incurred on new Mission:
- (d) the number of comprehensive projects approved by the Government under the said Mission in rural areas during the last three years;
- (e) whether the performance of the Non-Governmental Organisations has been reviewed in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether any action has been taken by the Government against such NGOs whose performance has been found unsatisfactory and if so, the details thereof? ANSWER

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

- (a) The principal target of the National Literacy Mission for Saakshar Bharat programme is to impart literacy to 7 crore adult learners in the age group of 15 years and beyond by the end of the XII Plan Period. To achieve this, a target for enrollment of 9.1 crore learners has been set. A statement indicating the targets of enrollment of learners set for various States/UT including Gujarat, and the State/UT-wise number of learners appeared and declared successful in biannual basic literacy assessment tests conducted between August, 2010 to March, 2016, is at Annexure-I.
- (b) The funds allocated to National Literacy Mission for Saakshar Bharat programme during 2015-16 and 2016-17 were Rs. 450.00 crore and Rs. 320.00 crore respectively. A statement indicating year-wise details of the Central share released by National Literacy Mission for Saakshar Bharat Programme to various States/UT including Jharkhand during the last two years including current year, is at Annexure-II.
- (c) To accelerate the implementation of the Saakshar Bharat programme several steps have been taken including capacity building of implementing agencies on regular basis; orientation of Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) associated with the programme; development of basic literacy primers and bridge primers in regional languages and dialects; organizing nationwide media campaign to mobilize the learners for basic literacy; encouraging good performing states/other principal stakeholders by conferring annual Saakshar Bharat awards; and regular monitoring of the programme.
- (d) The ongoing Saakshar Bharat programme which was launched in 2009 envisages coverage of rural areas of 410 districts in 26 States and one UT that had adult female literacy rate of 50 per cent and below as per Census 2001, and Left Wing Extremism Affected (LWEA) districts irrespective of their adult female literacy rates.
- (e) To support the efforts undertaken for promotion of Adult Education and Skill Development programme National Literacy Mission funded State Resource Centres (SRCs) and Jan Shikshan Sansathans (JSSs), which are largely functioning under the aegis of Non-Governmental Organisations, provide technical & academic resource support to adult education programme and undertake vocational training programmes for non-literates/neoliterates/scheme dropouts, respectively. The performance of these SRCs and JSSs is reviewed periodically by National Literacy Mission Authority (NLMA) and also through third party evaluation.
- (f) Over the years, due to several reasons including violation of Guidelines for SRCs and JSSs and serious irregularities of administrative and financial nature, 19 JSSs, spread over various states, have been cancelled/defunct.