

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) According to the University Grants Commission (UGC), the Expert Committee constituted by UGC under the Chairmanship of Prof. B.S. Sonde has submitted the draft regulations for admission and fee structure in self-financing universities and colleges. The Commission has not taken a final decision.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A Committee constituted by the Central Advisory Board on Education (CABE) has given recommendations relating to fee structure in higher and technical education. It had recommended, among others, that increase of fee beyond 20% of the recurring requirements of universities is not desirable. The report of the CABE Committee is available on the Ministry's website www.education.nic.in.

Literacy rate of women

*282. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the overall literacy rate of women in the country, State-wise;
- (b) what is the overall literacy rate of the rural population of women in the country, State-wise;
- (c) what are the main causes of illiteracy among the rural population of the country;
- (d) what steps are being taken to improve the literacy rate among women in the country, for betterment of the society; and
- (e) whether Government is planning to launch any special programmes to improve the situation, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) A statement showing State-wise literacy rate of women and literacy rate of rural population of women in the country as per census 2001 is enclosed (See below).

(c) Factors contributing to the lower literacy level among the rural population include socio-economic and cultural barriers, gender disparities and poverty.

(d) The National Literacy Mission (NLM) provides functional literacy to adult illiterates in the 15-35 age group through Total Literacy Campaigns, Post Literacy and Continuing Education Programmes. NLM focuses on women's literacy to enhance their self confidence and self esteem and develop social and economic awareness. The Mahila Samakhya (MS) programme also supports strategies for women's education and empowerment in select districts/blocks of the country. Significant investments are being made under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Mid Day Meal (MDM) programmes in order to ensure access and retention of children, especially girls, in elementary education, and thereby arrest the influx of illiterate persons into the adult age group.

(e) The Eleventh Plan envisages renewed focus on low literacy areas with special emphasis on low female literacy areas.

Statement

State-wise literacy rate of women and literacy rate of rural women as per Census 2001.

Sl. No.	Name of State	Literacy Rate of women (%) as per Census 2001	Literacy Rate of rural women (%) as per Census 2001
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	50.4	43.5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	43.5	36.9
3.	Assam	54.6	50.7
4.	Bihar	33.1	29.6
5.	Chhattisgarh	51.9	47.0
6.	Goa	75.4	71.9
7.	Gujarat	57.8	47.8
8.	Haryana	55.7	49.3
9.	Himachal Pradesh	67.4	65.7
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	43.0	36.7
11.	Jharkhand	38.9	29.9
12.	Karnataka	56.9	48.0
13.	Kerala	87.7	86.7
14.	Madhya Pradesh	50.3	42.8
15.	Maharashtra	67.0	58.4
16.	Manipur	60.5	57.0
17.	Meghalaya	59.6	53.2
18.	Mizoram	86.7	77.3
19.	Negaland	61.5	57.5
20.	Orissa	50.5	46.7
21.	Punjab	63.4	57.7
22.	Rajasthan	43.9	37.3
23.	Sikkim	60.4	58.0
24.	Tamil Nadu	64.4	55.3
25.	Tripura	64.9	60.5

1	2	3	4
26.	Uttarakhand	59.6	54.7
27.	Uttar Pradesh	42.2	36.9
28.	West Bengal	59.6	53.2
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	75.2	72.3
30.	Chandigarh	76.5	66.4
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	40.2	30.8
32.	Daman and Diu	65.6	59.3
33.	Delhi	74.7	67.4
34.	Lakshadweep	80.5	78.3
35.	Pondicherry	73.9	64.4
	All India	53.7	46.1

Role of public and private sectors in power generation and distribution

*283. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether, emphasizing the increased role for the public sector in power generation and the private sector in the distribution business, he has decided to strengthen technological and managerial expertise of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) in power sector and synergies their roles, to complement generation capacity building efforts;

(b) if so, what are the main suggestions made to the PSUs in the power sector;

(c) how many of these suggestions have been considered by those PSUs; and

(d) to what extent the power generation targets would be achieved during the Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Power places emphasis on capacity building in power sector. With growing competition and restructuring of the sector, the focus is on reorienting and upgrading managerial approach and improving work efficiency through structured skills upgradation and improvement programme.

The changes caused due to technological advances and upgradation are tackled through multi pronged strategy in the three major areas in the Power Sector *i.e.* Generation, Transmission and Distribution. The major initiatives taken are as follows:

I. Cadre Development:

- (i) Developing the cadre at induction level through institutionalizing career development programmes like B. Tech in Power through the National Power Training Institute (NPTI) for developing engineers specifically for the power sector.