

- Provide for Urdu text books for Urdu medium schools and also for those teaching Urdu as a subject.
- KGBVs have been sanctioned in 427 blocks with Muslim population above 20%;
- KGBV guidelines provide for two Urdu teachers, if there is a demand for Urdu as a medium of instruction in those schools.

Class X examination as an option

1909. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to make class X examination optional;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether several State Governments have resented the move; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The National Curriculum Framework – 2005 has recommended that the Board should consider, as a long term measure, making the Class-X Examination optional, thus permitting students continuing in the same school (and who do not need a Board Certificate) to take an internal school examination instead. A proposal to make the Class-X Examination optional for students continuing in the same school, for schools affiliated to Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), is under consideration. However, there is no such proposal as far as State Examination Boards are concerned.

Literacy improvement in the country

1910. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and percentage of illiterate people throughout the country at present, Age-wise and State-wise;
- (b) the statistics pertaining to SC/ST/OBC/Women as regards literacy;
- (c) whether according to the World Education Report 2005, of the 771 million adult illiterates in the world, 262 million are Indians; and
- (d) if so, the steps Government proposes to take to improve literacy scenario?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) Based on the decennial Census 2001, a statement indicating the number and percentage of illiterate people SC, ST and women is enclosed (See below). The data for OBC has not been estimated during Census 2001.

(c) As per UNESCO's Education for All Global Monitoring Report 2006, the number of illiterates in the population aged 15+ was estimated to be 771 million in the world out of which 267 million are in India.

(d) The steps taken to improve the literacy scenario in the country include:

- (i) Renewed focus on low literacy areas of the country with special emphasis on female, SC, ST and minorities.
- (ii) Enhanced budget allocation for adult education for Eleventh Plan.
- (iii) Significant enhancement in access and quality of elementary education which would reduce the influx into the pool of adult illiterate population.

Statement

*Age-wise and State-wise, number and percentage of illiterate people,
SC, ST and Women*

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Number/Percentage of illiterates in 7+age group (as per census 2001)			
		Persons	Women	SC	ST
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2,61,03,827	1,62,08,523	49,32,224	26,19,983
		39.53	49.57%	46.48%	62.96%
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4,07,312	2,35,485	1,660	2,85,786
		45.66%	56.47%	32.36%	50.38%
3.	Assam	81,42,099	48,42,875	5,09,489	10,33,026
		36.75%	45.39%	33.22%	37.48%
4.	Bihar	3,50,82,869	2,11,36,155	72,38,716	4,33,272
		53.00%	66.88%	71.53%	71.83%
5.	Chhattisgarh	61,05,738	41,43,328	7,14,902	25,99,576
		35.34%	48.15%	36.04%	47.91%
6.	Goa	2,16,138	1,45,260	5,876	210
		17.99%	24.63%	28.08%	44.12%
7.	Gujarat	1,33,10,863	87,58,707	8,99,411	32,22,009
		30.86%	42.20%	29.50%	52.26%
8.	Haryana	57,15,350	36,65,261	15,00,813	—
		32.09%	44.27%	44.55%	

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Himachal Pradesh	12,43,142 23.52%	8,52,014 32.58%	3,81,998 29.69%	72,796 34.50%
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	38,50,611 44.48%	23,15,707 57.00%	2,67,597 40.97%	5,64,160 62.54%
11.	Jharkhand	1,02,11,801 46.44%	64,95,657 61.13%	15,85,341 62.44%	34,12,302 59.33%
12.	Karnataka	1,52,33,500 33.36%	96,86,751 43.13%	34,21,059 47.13%	15,12,548 51.73%
13.	Kerala	25,62,540 9.14%	12,82,555 12.28%	4,78,714 17.34%	1,12,042 35.65%
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1,79,73,246 36.26%	1,17,81,715 49.71%	30,68,812 41.43%	56,54,112 58.84%
15.	Maharashtra	1,92,41,558 23.12%	1,31,72,357 32.97%	23,64,790 28.10%	31,51,424 44.79%
16.	Manipur	5,47,669 29.47%	3,63,183 39.47%	14,193 27.68%	2,17,603 34.15%
17.	Meghalaya	6,92,968 37.44%	3,68,368 40.39%	4,080 43.73%	6,09,171 38.66%
18.	Mizoram	83,394 11.20%	47,566 13.25%	27 10.80	74,675 10.66%
19.	Nagaland	5,68,035 33.41%	3,08,619 38.54%	—	5,15,743 34.05%
20.	Orissa	1,16,08,795 36.92%	76,85,110 49.49%	22,85,985 44.47%	42,03,733 62.63%
21.	Punjab	64,30,200 30.35%	36,51,249 36.64%	26,01,896 43.78%	—
22.	Rajasthan	1,81,54,176 39.59%	1,23,60,938 56.15%	36,77,413 47.76%	30,73,429 55.34%
23.	Sikkim	1,44,321 31.19%	84,739 39.60%	8,435 36.96%	31,405 32.86%

1	2	3	4	5	6
24.	Tamil Nadu	1,46,45,974 26.55%	97,80,343 35.57%	37,92,303 36.81%	3,25,122 58.47%
25.	Tripura	7,40,658 26.81%	4,71,142 35.09%	1,21,961 25.32%	3,61,522 43.52%
26.	Uttarakhand	20,23,535 28.38%	14,19,435 40.37%	4,52,312 36.60%	78,472 36.77%
27.	Uttar Pradesh	5,88,54,009 43.73%	3,66,99,086 57.78%	1,49,97,337 53.73%	54,530 64.87%
28.	West Bengal	2,15,65,574 31.36%	1,33,76,195 40.39%	64,17,675 40.96%	20,77,219 56.60%
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	58,236 18.70%	34,980 24.76%	—	8,514 33.21%
30.	Chandigarh	1,41,777 18.06%	80,189 23.53%	42,804 32.34%	—
31.	Dadra and N Haveli	76,387 42.37%	47,178 59.77%	748 21.75%	63,707 58.76%
32.	Daman and Diu	30,026 21.82%	19,191 34.39%	618 14.87%	4,389 36.58%
33.	Delhi	21,68,894 18.33%	13,42,125 25.29%	5,72,116 29.15%	—
34.	Lakshadweep	6,876 13.34%	4,897 19.53%	—	6,712 13.86%
35.	Pondicherry	1,60,819 18.76%	1,12,181 26.10%	42,015 30.88%	—
TOTAL		30,41,02,917 35.16%	19,34,79,064 46.33%	6,24,03,320 45.31%	3,63,79,192 52.90%

PIL for regulation of Deemed Universities

1911. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) plea seeking regulation of Deemed Universities in the Apex Court in 2006 is still pending for final verdict;