

Literacy amongst minorities

*219. SHRI PRASAD CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of literacy amongst religious minorities as on the 31st December, 2005, community-wise;

(b) the percentage of persons educated upto IVth standard amongst the above communities alongwith the drop-out rate; and

(c) the percentage of persons educated upto Xth standard amongst each of the above communities in comparison to the national figure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (c) As per data of Census 2001, religion-wise literacy rate, and percentage of persons educated below primary, upto primary and Matric/Secondary levels are given below:

Religion	Literacy Rate (%)	Percentage of persons educated		
		Below Primary	Upto Primary	Upto Matric/ Primary level Secondary level
All Religions	64.8	16.8		17.0
Muslims	59.1	18.8		17.1
Christians	80.3	16.0		18.1
Sikhs	69.5	13.1		18.1
Buddhists	72.7	20.0		18.0

Data on drop-out rates is not collected by the Ministry, on religion-wise basis.

Smart Schools for quality education

*220. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme to set up Smart Schools all over the country, in order to provide quality education, by making use of computers and other technological devices;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of Smart Schools set up in the country so far, particularly in Maharashtra; and