

3-4 years, the remaining 515 eligible rural families residing above level of 790 meters are being rehabilitated pari passu with the reservoir filling, in line with the directions of the Supreme Court. While the rehabilitation directorate of Government of Uttaranchal has offered to pay compensation to all, the remaining eligible families are not coming forward at this point of time, as the reservoir will fill up only after a period of three to four years. These families would move out at the appropriate time as they are cultivating their lands presently, which are not yet submerged.

The displaced persons of Tehri Dam have been rehabilitated in New Tehri, Haridwar and Dehradun districts.

For rehabilitation of Urban affected population, the modern Hill City of New Tehri Town has been developed, having facilities like Roads, Electricity, Drinking water supply, other essential community facilities i.e. Schools, Intermediate College, ITI, University Complex, Community Centre, Bus Stand, Shopping Complex, 77 bedded Hospital and Places of worship, etc.

Rural Rehabilitation Centres have been provided facilities including Roads, Electricity, Drinking water supply, Irrigation & other essential community facilities i.e. Schools, Barat Ghar, Shopping Complex, Dispensaries, Places of worship, etc.

Low literacy rate

*535. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

SHRI DARA SINGH:

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

(a) whether the current literacy rate of the country is lagging behind many developing countries;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government during 2006-07 to increase the literacy rate further.

(c) whether it is a fact that female literacy rate is less than the male literacy rate; and

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating budgetary provisions made,

State-wise during 2006-07 as compared to 2005-06, particularly in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) As per Census 2001, the literacy rate of the country is 64.84%. The male literacy rate is 75.26% and female literacy rate is 53.67%. Although the female literacy rate is below the male literacy rate, it is a fact that the female literacy rates have risen at a much higher rate than the male literacy rate.

As per Education For All (EPA) Global Monitoring Report 2006, the literacy rates of some developing countries like Sri Lanka and Maldives are higher than India whereas literacy rates of other countries like Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh are much lower than that of India.

The Universalisation of Elementary Education and eradication of adult illiteracy form the two-pronged strategy for improving the literacy rate of the country. Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is a comprehensive programme for universalizing quality Elementary Education by 2010. The goals of SSA are:

- All children in School, Education Guarantee Centre, Alternate School, 'Back-to-School' camp by 2003.
- All children complete five years of primary schooling by 2007.
- All children complete eight years of elementary schooling by 2010.
- Focus on elementary education of satisfactory quality with emphasis on education for life.
- Bridge all gender and social category gaps at primary stage by 2007 and at elementary education level by 2010.
- Universal retention by 2010.

The National Literacy Mission (NLM) is entrusted with the target of achieving a sustainable level of 75% literacy by 2007. The thrust areas of NLM are improving female literacy in low female literacy areas, organizing projects for residual illiteracy in districts, which have substantial number of illiterates, setting up of continuing education centres for providing

opportunities for life-long learning to the neo-literates and imparting vocational training to neo-literates through Jan Shikshan Sansthan. 150 districts of the country, which have the lowest literacy rates, have been identified for launching of a special literacy drive for eradication of residual illiteracy in these areas. Out of 150 districts, 134 districts have already been covered under the programme. Under the adult literacy programmes, 60% of the beneficiaries are women.

The Government has also launched two programmes for education of girls at elementary level—the National Programme for Education of Girls at the Elementary level (NPEGEL) and the Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV).

(d) Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Rs. 854.22 crores were allocated to the state of Rajasthan during 2005-06 and Rs. 1253.37 crore have been allocated for 2006-07. Under the Adult Education Programme, funds are not allocated State-wise but are released to the implementing agencies depending upon the proposals received from them, completion of the earlier programmes sanctioned to them settlement of accounts. No State specific or year-wise budgetary provision is made. During the year 2005-06, a total grant of Rs. 972.20 lakh was sanctioned to the implementing agencies in Rajasthan based on the proposals received from them for implementation of various adult education programmes.

Proposal of Kolar Gold Mines Unions

536. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from the Unions working in Kolar Gold Fields Limited;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Bharat Gold Mines Limited (BGML) Employees Supervisors and Officers' United Forum have submitted a proposal to the Government of India. The Proposal is for settlement of employees' Special Terminal