

(b) how many such children have been rehabilitated under the Alternative and Innovative Education Scheme, State-wise; and

(c) the total budgetary allocation for States, under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) As per information provided by the States and UTs for the 2012-13, the number of out of school children in the country is estimated at 29.34 lakh.

(b) and (c) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) did provide support to alternate schooling facilities under its Education Guarantee Scheme (EGS) and Alternative Innovative Education (AIE) component, however, with the Right to Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 mandating every child be admitted to a class appropriate to his/her age, to bring out of school children at par with the class in which they are admitted, Special Training facilities are now being provided under the SSA. For the year 2012-13, financial outlay of Rs. 1580 crore has been made for the purpose.

Sakshar Bharat Programme

857. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent objectives of Sakshar Bharat Programme to make 10 crore illiterate women literate have been achieved;

(b) whether neglect of people's involvement has been a cause for under achievement of the targets; and

(c) how many men and women in the country still remain illiterate at the end of Eleventh Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The objective of Sakshar Bharat Programme is to impart functional literacy to 70 million non-literate adults, in the age group of 15 years and above, in a period of five years from 1.10.2009. Upto 31st March, 2012, 121 lakh beneficiaries have been certified as literate.

(b) No, Sir. Various factors like long gestation period for preparatory activities viz., environment building and mobilization, household survey, identification of beneficiaries and volunteer teachers, training of resource persons, production and distribution of teaching learning material alongwith other factors such as non-availability of administrative structures, capacity building and orientation of the Panchayati Raj Institutions and developing a framework for transparent and effective fund flow have resulted in slow progress initially.

(c) As per provisional data of Census, 2011, there are 27,29,50,015 illiterates including 9,65,68,351 males and 17,63,81,664 females in India in the age group 7 and above.