(b) the number of dalit population and literate dalit persons in the country;

(c) whether any evaluation has been made regarding the reasons of such a large number of illiterate persons among dalit population, despite the efforts made by Government; and

(d) the action plan prepared by Government to face this challenge in future?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The Census, 2011 reported the percentage of literate persons in the country as 72.98.

(b) The Scheduled Castes population reported by the Census, 2011 is 20,13,78,372 out of which 11,37,59,997 are literates.

(c) and (d) A large number of Scheduled Castes population is still illiterate due to various factors including poverty, gender etc. Government has reiterated its commitment to establishing a literate society and providing quality literacy to all irrespective of age and gender. Saakshar Bharat, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Adult Education and Skill Development, is being implemented for non-literate adults in the 15 plus age group for enhancing the literacy rate in the rural areas of 410 districts in 26 States and one Union Territory (UT). The main target under the programme is to make 70 million adult non-literates including 14 million SCs as literates under basic literacy. The Government has also enacted the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 and is implementing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Programme for universalisation of elementary education for all children in the 6-14 age group.

**Reservation in CBSE affiliated schools**

†3194. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has no information about implementation of reservation rules for SCs, STs and OBCs in the schools affiliated to CBSE;

(b) if so, the response of Government thereto; and

(c) the remedial steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) being an affiliating and examining body does not maintain record of implementation of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

reservation for SCs, STs and OBCs in its affiliated schools. However, Affiliation Bye-Laws of CBSE Rule 12 *inter alia* prescribe that "as regards reservation for SC/ST students is concerned, it shall be governed by the Education Act/Rules applicable to the State/U.T. where the school is situated."

**Safe drinking water and clean toilets in schools**

3195. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has fixed any time limit in regard to providing safe drinking water and clean toilets in all Government and Government aided schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Supreme Court has given any direction to Government in this regard and if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of schools in the States including Jharkhand, lacking basic infrastructure facilities including safe drinking water and toilet facilities, State- wise; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to address the issue?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 mandates the appropriate Governments to provide school infrastructure for elementary education in accordance with the norms prescribed in the schedule to the RTE Act. State Governments/UT administrations are mandated to provide these facilities in all schools as per the time frame mandated under the RTE Act. Further, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in writ petition (Civil) No. 631 of 2004 in the matter of Environmental and Consumer Protection Foundation *vs.* Delhi Administration and Others, had directed, in its order dated 3.10.2012 that all States and Union Territories provide, *inter alia,* drinking water and toilet facilities, if not already provided, within six months to schools.

(d) and (e) As per U-District Information System for Education (U-DISE) 2013-14, 54553 schools do not have drinking water facilities and 2.03 lakh Government schools do not have toilet facilities. State-wise details of these facilities is given in Statement (*See* below). Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme, 9.67 lakh toilets and 2.36 lakh drinking water facilities have been sanctioned across the country till now. Further, in pursuit to the national call to provide toilets in all schools within a year, many corporates have also committed for construction/ renovation of toilets in schools.