

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3214
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.12.2018

Sakshar Bharat Abhiyan

3214. SHRI BADRUDDIN AJMAL:

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

- (a) whether the Government has abolished the Sakshar Bharat Scheme which was launched to educate adult people of the country and which was giving a good result;
- (b) if so, the reasons for abolishing the scheme;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that this decision caused unemployment to the thousands of teachers who have been working under the scheme and if so, the details thereof ;
- (d) whether these teachers were not paid their salaries for several months and scheme was abolished without any prior information;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which all these teachers are likely to get their payment; and
- (f) whether the Government proposes to reconsider its decision and continue the scheme?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(Dr. SATYA PAL SINGH)**

(a) & (b) The scheme of Saakshar Bharat was implemented in the rural areas of 410 districts in 26 States and one UT that had adult female literacy rate of 50 per cent and below as per Census 2001, and including left wing extremism affected districts, irrespective of their literacy rates, with special focus on women and other disadvantaged groups, since October 2009. The scheme had a target of making 70 million adult non-literates, including 60 million women by the end of XII Five Year Plan out of which 76.4 million adult learners have been declared successful in the biannual Basic Literacy Assessment Tests conducted by National Institute of Open Schooling including 56.4 million women. Initially, the scheme was approved for XIth Plan Period (upto 31.03.2012) which was extended upto XIIth Plan Period

(upto 31.03.2017) and subsequently extended upto 31.03.2018. Later the scheme was extended till 31.12.2018 and subsequently till 31.03.2019 for meeting the committed liabilities upto 31.03.2018 only.

(c) No Madam. The literacy centres were run temporarily by the Voluntary Literacy Educators at a place convenient to learners. Based on the number of non-literate adults within each of the villages and hamlets that constitute the Gram Panchayat, the required number of literacy centres, were set up covering 8-10 non-literates in each centre. These Voluntary Literacy Educators were not paid any remuneration.

(d) & (e) Question does not arise.

(f) No Madam.
