

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 37
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.02.2020

Female Literacy Rate in Maharashtra

†37. SHRI SADASHIV KISAN LOKHANDE:

DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR:

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

- (a) the current female literacy rate in Maharashtra and the position of Maharashtra in the country in terms of female literacy rate;
- (b) the reason for the low female literacy rate in Maharashtra;
- (c) the steps taken by the Union Government to increase female literacy rate in Maharashtra; and
- (d) the extent to which female literacy rate in Maharashtra has been raised by the steps taken?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')

(a) & (b) The literacy data in the country is collected through decennial census operation conducted by Registrar General of India. The last Census was held in 2011. A statement indicating State/UT and rank-wise female literacy rate in the country including Maharashtra, in the age group of 7 and above, as per Census 2011 is at **Annexure**. The female literacy rate in Maharashtra is 75.87 per cent compared to the national average of female literacy rate of 64.63 per cent and stands at 13th place in the country. Various factors viz. poverty, gender and social inequities, etc. are impeding female literacy in the country.

(c) In order to improve the female literacy rate in the country, the scheme of Saakshar Bharat was implemented in the rural areas of 410 districts in 26 States and one UT, including 10 districts in Maharashtra, 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.

In addition, the Department of School Education and Literacy has launched the Samagra Shiksha - an Integrated Scheme for School Education as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with effect from the year 2018-19. This programme subsumes the three erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE). Samagra Shiksha is an overarching programme for the school education sector extending from pre-school to class XII and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of school education.

Under Samagra Shiksha, Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBV) are residential schools from class VI to XII for girls belonging to disadvantaged groups such as SC, ST, OBC, Minority and Below Poverty Line (BPL) to ensure access and quality education to girls from disadvantaged groups by setting up residential schools and to reduce gender gaps at all levels of school education.

Various interventions have also been targeted for girls under Samagra Shiksha including opening of schools in the neighbourhood, provision of free text-books to girls up to Class VIII, uniforms to all girls up to class VIII, provision of gender segregated toilets in all schools, teachers' sensitization programmes to promote girls' participation, provision for Self-Defence training for the girls from classes VI to XII and stipend to Children With Special Needs (CWSN) girls from class I to Class XII.

(d) Census 2011 recorded female literacy rate of Maharashtra as 75.87 per cent compared to 67.03 per cent in 2001 and 52.3 per cent in 1991. Under the Saakshar Bharat programme in Maharashtra, 10.5 lakh adult learners appeared in the Biannual Basic Literacy Assessment Test conducted by National Institute of Open Schooling between August, 2010 to March, 2018 (including 6.2 lakh women) and 7.44 lakh learners (including 4.46 lakh women) were declared successful.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 37 FOR 03.02.2020 ASKED BY SHRI SADASHIV KISAN LOKHANDE AND DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR REGARDING “FEMALE LITERACY RATE IN MAHARASHTRA”.

Rank-wise Female Literacy rate in the country, in the age group of 7 and above, as per the Census 2011

Sl. No.	Name of States / UTs	Female Literacy Rate
		India
1	Kerala	92.07
2	Mizoram	89.27
3	Lakshadweep	87.95
4	Goa	84.66
5	Tripura	82.73
6	A & N Islands	82.43
7	Chandigarh	81.19
8	NCT of Delhi	80.76
9	Puducherry	80.67
10	Daman & Diu	79.55
11	Nagaland	76.11
12	Himachal Pradesh	75.93
13	Maharashtra	75.87
14	Sikkim	75.61
15	Tamil Nadu	73.44
16	Meghalaya	72.89
17	Punjab	70.73
18	West Bengal	70.54
19	Manipur	70.26
20	Uttarakhand	70.01
21	Gujarat	69.68
22	Karnataka	68.08
23	Assam	66.27
24	Haryana	65.94
25	D & N Haveli	64.32
26	Odisha	64.01
27	Chhattisgarh	60.24
28	Madhya Pradesh	59.24
29	Andhra Pradesh (Undivided)	59.15
30	Arunachal Pradesh	57.70
31	Uttar Pradesh	57.18
32	Jammu & Kashmir	56.43
33	Jharkhand	55.42
34	Rajasthan	52.12
35	Bihar	51.50
