

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1136**

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2025

**Initiatives to Rise Literacy Rates in Rural Areas**

1136. **Dr. Gumma Thanuja Rani:**

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the current literacy rate across the rural areas of the country, State-wise;
- (b) the steps being taken by the Government to improve literacy rate in these areas specifically for women and other vulnerable communities;
- (c) whether any specific initiatives have been taken by the Government in this regard during the last three years; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

- (a) A statement indicating State/UT-wise literacy rate across the rural areas of the country as per Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), Ministry of Statistics and Programme implementation is at **Annexure**.
- (b) to (d) In order to improve the literacy rate including rural literacy rate among adults in the country, the Government of India has introduced a Centrally Sponsored Scheme called Nav Bharat Saksharta Karyakram (NILP), popularly known as ULLAS: Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2022 upto 2027. The scheme, aligned with NEP 2020, targets adults (aged 15 years and above) who couldn't go to school. The scheme has five components, namely: (i) Foundational Literacy and Numeracy, (ii) Critical Life Skills, (iii) Basic Education, (iv) Vocational Skills, and (v) Continuing Education.

The scheme is implemented in a hybrid mode, allowing States/UTs the flexibility to adopt offline or online mode focusing on imparting foundational literacy and numeracy including critical life skills, digital & financial literacy. ULLAS works with the vision of making Bharat 'Jan Jan Saakshar', driven by Kartavyabodh (a sense of duty), utilising school platforms and community engagement through volunteerism to achieve full literacy. The scheme focuses on rural areas, educationally backward areas, women and other vulnerable communities etc.

A dedicated ULLAS Mobile App has been developed for registering learners and volunteer teachers and also enables teaching learning process by providing access to primers in 26 languages. With continuous efforts, under ULLAS, more than 2 Crore learners have been registered and more than 1 Crore learners have already appeared in the Literacy Test named Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Assessment Test (FLNAT) across the country

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**ANNEXURE**

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1136 FOR 10.02.2025 ASKED BY DR. GUMMA THANUJA RANI HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING INITIATIVES TO RISE LITERACY RATES IN RURAL AREAS.**

**State wise Rural Literacy Rate of India**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>State\UT</b>	<b>2023-24</b>
	<b>All India</b>	<b>77.5</b>
1	Andhra Pradesh	67.5
2	Arunachal Pradesh	82.9
3	Assam	86.2
4	Bihar	73.3
5	Chhattisgarh	76.6
6	Delhi	84.8
7	Goa	92.8
8	Gujarat	79.6
9	Haryana	81.3
10	Himachal Pradesh	88.1
11	Jharkhand	74.3
12	Karnataka	78.1
13	Kerala	94.2
14	Madhya Pradesh	71.6
15	Maharashtra	83.2
16	Manipur	90.9
17	Meghalaya	93.6
18	Mizoram	98.1
19	Nagaland	95
20	Odisha	76.9
21	Punjab	81.1
22	Rajasthan	72.5
23	Sikkim	82.2
24	Tamil Nadu	81.2
25	Telangana	69.9
26	Tripura	92.8
27	Uttarakhand	82.2
28	Uttar Pradesh	76.5
29	West Bengal	80.3
30	Andaman & N Island	90.6
31	Chandigarh	*
32	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	75.8
33	Daman & Diu	
34	Jammu & Kashmir	81.4
35	Ladakh	79.8
36	Lakshadweep	99.5
37	Puducherry	90.2

\*For the year 2023-24 Chandigarh entire area has been considered as urban for the survey

**Source of Data - Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) Ministry of Statistics and Programme implementation**

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