

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2342
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 05.08.2022

DIGITAL LITERACY AMONG TRIBAL YOUTH

2342. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the tribal youth have the lowest literacy in electronics and information technology as compared to others;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is considering to start a scheme to boost digital literacy with special focus on tribal population, especially in Odisha; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR)

(a) and (b): The National Statistical Office (NSO) under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has conducted a survey on Household Social Consumption: Education as part of the 75th round of National Sample Survey (NSS) from July 2017 to June 2018. As per the report, 11.1% persons in rural areas and 34.7% persons in urban areas were able to operate a computer in the age group of 15 years and above. No specific data on tribal youth is indicated in the said NSSO report.

(c) and (d): In order to transform India into a digitally empowered society and to enhance digital adoption, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has been focusing on providing digital literacy to the citizens across the country with a specific focus on the rural areas (including tribal dominated areas). Various initiatives taken to boost digital literacy in the country are as under:

- i. During the years 2014 to 2016, Government of India had implemented two Schemes on providing digital literacy to the masses namely “National Digital Literacy Mission (NDLM)” and “Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (DISHA)” with a cumulative target of 52.50 lakh persons (one person from every eligible household) across the country. Under these Schemes, a total number of 7,66,080 Scheduled Tribe candidates were trained and out of which, 7,17,412 candidates were duly certified. In the state of Odisha, a total of 26,822 Scheduled Tribe candidates were trained, out of which 26,598 candidates were duly certified.
- ii. In the year 2017, Government has approved a Scheme titled "Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)" to usher in digital literacy in rural India with a target to cover 6 crore rural households (one person per household) across the country including the state of Odisha. Under the Scheme, so far, a total of 55,82,720 Scheduled Tribe candidates have been enrolled and 47,04,973 candidates have been trained, out of which 33,82,044 candidates have been duly certified across the country. In the state of Odisha, a total of 5,49,049 Scheduled Tribe candidates have been enrolled and 4,43,561 candidates have been trained, out of which 3,17,867 candidates have been duly certified.
