

K. G. Jolly

Strategies to Attain Universal Literacy in India by 2001

IT is a well known fact that India has produced many eminent scholars, intellectual elites, scientists, technocrats, professionals and such like persons since time immemorial. India's expenditure on education is reasonably moderate but it is strange that major share of it goes for higher and technical education and very little attention is paid towards primary education. The literacy rate in India still continues to be low or moderate but has lot of supply of highly technical and professional personnel to other developing and developed countries of the world. The efforts of Education Commission of 1966, National Literacy Mission of 1978 and National Policy on Education of 1986 have brought some improvement in the level of literacy but still it is not very satisfactory and needs further endeavours.

The Eighth Five Year Plan has laid stress on population control, health-for-all and universal literacy. The present study is based on the data of various censuses conducted in India. The literacy rate has uniformly been computed on the basis of total population. Moreover, the study tries to focus on the level of literacy rather than educational attainments. The study tries to analyse the trend at the national and state level. It puts special attention on the district level data and tries to work out various strategies that are to be tried on different types of districts in order to achieve the goal of universal literacy in the shortest possible span of time.

Trend in Literacy Rate at the National Level

The importance of literacy has well been recognised for the successful implementation of various social and economic programmes. Article 45 of the Constitution of India provides for free and compulsory education for all children until they attain the age of 14 years. The Planning Commission of India appointed a panel in 1957 to examine the feasibility of achieving the target of compulsory education by 1968. In the pre-independence era efforts were made by the government, voluntary agencies and other organisations to improve the level of literacy, particularly during 1930's. Table 1 shows the literacy rate in India during 1901-1991.

The commitment of free and compulsory elementary education dates back to the turn of the century when Gopal Krishan, then the President of Indian National Congress, urged the

* Reader, Institute of Economics Growth, Delhi University Enclave, Delhi-110 007.

government for its introduction. Various legislations have been passed at various points of time. The results of the various efforts have been depicted in Table 1 which clearly shows that the very low level of literacy steadily improved upto 1931, with somewhat better performance during 1930's but the amount of improvement was not sufficient anywhere to near universalisation.

In the post-independence period, the impact of the efforts of the Education Commission, National Literacy Mission of 1978 and National Policy on Education of 1986 is evident in 1971, 1981 and 1991 censuses. The results clearly show that the over-all literacy improved over time, initially at faster rate among males and intensive efforts resulted in faster rate of improvement among females during 1980's. It is equally important to mention that the rate of improvement in literacy has not been sufficient to reduce the number of illiterates over time. The number of illiterates increased to 480 million in 1991 compared to 325 million in 1961, 247 million in 1931 and 222 million by the turn of the century in 1901. The present efforts of 1990's are to reduce the number of illiterates to the minimum by turn of the next century, i.e. by 2001.

TABLE 1 : LITERACY RATE IN INDIA BY SEX, 1901-91

Year	Population (in million)	Literacy Rate			Change in percent points		
		Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1901	238.4	5.3	9.8	0.6	-	-	-
1911	252.1	5.9	10.6	1.1	0.6	0.8	0.5
1921	251.3	7.2	12.2	1.8	1.3	1.6	0.7
1931	279.0	9.5	15.6	2.9	2.3	3.4	1.1
1941	318.7	16.1	24.9	7.3	6.6	9.3	4.4
1951	361.1	16.7	25.0	7.9	0.6	0.1	0.6
1961	439.2	24.0	34.4	12.9	7.3	9.4	5.0
1971	548.2	29.5	39.5	18.7	5.5	5.1	5.8
1981	653.3	36.2	46.6	24.8	6.7	7.1	6.1
1991	844.3	43.2	52.9	32.6	7.0	6.3	7.8

Note : Literacy rate upto 1941 is for undivided India, while population relates to India.

Literacy Rate by Age

The percent of literates in the total population has increased from one census to another. However, the age-specific literacy reflects the success of compulsory education in recent past.

The figures clearly show that there is definitely an improvement in the literacy rate in all ages and particularly among young population from 1961 to 1971 and to 1981. The literacy rate in the age-group 10-19 was about 40 per cent in 1961 and it improved to 50 per cent in

TABLE 2 : LITERACY RATE BY AGE, 1961-81

<i>Age</i>	<i>1961</i>	<i>1971</i>	<i>1981</i>
5-9	19.6	23.2	30.6
10-14	42.2	49.8	56.6
15-19	38.4	51.4	55.4
20-24	33.5	44.7	52.0
25-34	28.4	34.8	45.1
35+	22.2	25.2	30.2
Total	24.0	29.5	36.2

1971 and about 55 per cent in 1981. This state of affairs clearly shows that the compulsory primary school education has not been enforced and there are other social and economic factors which force the children to remain illiterate and take up some job in the un-organised sector. The Report of the Committee on Child Labour (1979) provided sufficient data on employment of children by different sectors of the economy. The present situation and the determinants of child labour and non-enrolment of children in schools continue to be the same except some decline in the magnitude. Financial gains to employers complemented with economic compulsion of parents have made child labour a reality and under these circumstances, the provision of non-formal education programmes for working children will be in the right direction rather than putting them in school by force.

Rural-urban Differentials in Literacy

It is important to study the literacy rate in urban and rural area by sex particularly during the last three decades in order to understand the level and shift in the literacy level in different sectors. Table 3 shows the literacy rate in rural and urban areas by sex during 1961-91.

Table 3 clearly shows that the literacy rate has substantially increased between 1961 and 1991 both in the rural and urban areas. Expansion of educational facilities during 1960's and 1970's, accompanied by further expansion of privately managed public schools in urban areas, have resulted in improving the literacy rate over time. The rural-urban gap initially substantial during 1961-71, marginally declined during 1971-81 and appreciably went in favour of rural areas during 1981-91. While looking at the male-female differentials within rural and urban areas, we find that the rate of improvement among males is higher than females in the rural areas except for 1981-91 when females have an edge over males. In urban areas improvement in female literacy is consistently higher than among males. In simple words, we can say that the rural-urban gap among males has decreased over time while in the case of females it increased upto 1981 and then marginally decreased during 1981-91. It is equally important to mention that the level of female literacy even in 1991 is extremely low in rural areas than the minimum desired level.

TABLE 3 : LITERACY RATES IN INDIA IN RURAL AND URBAN AREAS BY SEX, 1961-1991

<i>Residence</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Literacy Rate				
Rural	1961	18.8	28.9	8.4
	1971	23.7	33.8	13.1
	1981	29.7	40.8	18.0
	1991	36.7	47.4	25.4
Urban	1961	46.9	57.4	34.4
	1971	52.4	61.2	42.0
	1981	57.4	65.8	47.8
	1991	62.3	69.3	54.0
Change in Percent Points				
Rural	1961-71	4.9	4.9	4.7
	1971-81	6.0	7.0	4.9
	1981-91	7.0	6.6	7.4
Urban	1961-71	5.5	3.8	7.6
	1971-81	5.0	4.6	5.8
	1981-91	4.9	3.5	6.2
Rural-Urban Gap				
	1961	28.1	28.5	26.0
	1971	28.7	27.4	28.9
	1981	27.7	25.0	29.8
	1991	25.6	21.9	28.6

Literacy Rates Among States

It is evidently clear that there are significant differentials in the literacy rate by sex in rural-urban, by age and by other socio-economic characteristics. Table 4 shows the literacy rates by sex and rural-urban residence in different states and Union Territories.

TABLE 4: LITERACY RATE BY RURAL-URBAN RESIDENCE AND SEX 1991

<i>State</i>	<i>Urban</i>	<i>Rural</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Andhra Pradesh	56.8	30.5	37.5	46.6	28.0
Arunachal Pradesh	57.7	29.4	32.9	41.3	23.0
Assam	69.2	40.0	43.2	50.6	35.2
Bihar	57.0	27.2	31.1	42.5	18.6
Goa	71.1	64.0	66.9	74.2	59.4
Gujarat	64.8	44.8	51.7	61.4	41.2
Haryana	61.6	40.2	45.5	54.0	33.6
Himachal Pradesh	73.7	51.4	53.3	62.7	44.0
Karnataka	63.6	39.6	47.0	56.3	37.4
Kerala	81.1	77.0	78.1	80.9	75.4
Madhya Pradesh	58.8	28.5	35.5	47.0	23.2
Maharashtra	68.1	45.9	54.4	64.4	43.6
Manipur	60.1	44.8	19.0	58.2	39.4
Meghalaya	67.7	32.6	39.2	41.7	36.5
Mizoram	77.8	58.4	67.4	70.4	64.1
Nagaland	67.8	47.6	51.1	56.1	45.5
Orissa	61.6	37.8	41.0	52.5	29.1
Punjab	61.1	44.1	49.3	55.1	42.7
Rajasthan	54.1	24.2	31.0	44.2	16.6
Sikkim	70.2	44.7	46.3	53.8	37.7
Tamil Nadu	68.1	47.6	54.6	64.0	44.9
Tripura	72.2	45.8	49.9	58.2	41.0
Uttar Pradesh	50.5	29.7	33.8	45.1	20.9
West Bengal	66.5	41.2	48.1	56.6	34.0
UNION TERRITORIES					
A & Nicobar	71.0	57.7	61.3	67.3	53.9
Chandigarh	68.6	48.4	66.5	70.8	61.1
D & N. Haveli	66.5	29.4	32.5	43.1	21.4
Daman & Diu	71.5	51.0	60.6	69.9	51.1
Delhi	64.6	53.4	63.5	67.7	56.0
Lakshadweep	67.1	62.1	64.9	71.7	57.8
Pondicherry	69.9	54.4	64.6	72.2	56.8

Table 4 gives some glaring trends namely, states with higher literacy rate generally tend to have lower gap in the rural-urban and male-female literacy level. Among the 14 major

states Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Punjab and West Bengal can be classified as 'good', Karnataka, Haryana, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh as 'moderate' while Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Rajasthan as 'poor' states. Among the other small states and Union Territories in terms of population, except for Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Dadra & Nagar Haveli, all have fairly good level of literacy compared to the national level. This state of affairs clearly shows that there is a strong need to put greater emphasis among socially and economically backward areas to raise the level of literacy.

Literacy at the District Level

We have already seen that there are significant differentials of literacy level among various states and Union Territories of India. On the basis of state/U-T. literacy level, the rate of improvement in literacy level is significantly higher in 1981-91 over 1971-81 period indicating that the Literacy Mission has created an atmosphere of acceleration and this tempo is to be further strengthened to achieve the goal of universal literacy.

TABLE 5: DISTRICTS BY LITERACY RATE IN RURAL/URBAN AREAS BY SEX

Literacy Rate	Number of Districts			Per cent of Districts		
	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Male	Females
All						
Below 20	8	1	115	1.8	0.2	25.4
20-35	140	28	170	31.0	6.2	37.6
35-50	176	181	111	38.9	40.1	24.6
50-65	99	171	34	21.9	37.8	7.5
65+	29	71	22	6.4	15.7	4.9
Total	452	452	452	100.0	100.0	100.0
Rural						
Below 20	20	1	190	4.5	0.2	42.6
20-35	201	65	137	45.1	14.6	30.7
35-50	146	199	90	32.7	44.6	20.1
50-65	59	143	15	13.2	32.1	3.4
65+	20	38	14	4.5	8.5	3.2
Total	446	446	446	100.0	100.0	100.0
Urban						
Below 20	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-35	2	-	29	0.5	-	6.6
35-50	59	9	165	13.3	2.0	37.3
50-65	231	142	190	52.3	32.1	43.0
65+	150	291	58	33.9	65.9	13.1
Total	442	442	442	100.0	100.0	100.0

Note : 10 Districts have no urban population while 6 districts have no rural population. Excludes the districts of Jammu & Kashmir where census has not taken place.

District is generally the lowest unit for planning and execution of any social development programme including literacy programme. The 1991 census has covered 452 districts in all parts of the country except the states of Jammu & Kashmir. Districts vary in terms of size, growth, density, percent urban population, literacy rate by sex and such other characteristics (Table 5). For the purpose of choosing various strategies, literacy rates in the rural and urban area by sex are important indicators for planning and execution of literacy programme.

Attempt has been made to classify the districts in terms of literacy rate by sex and residence. Broadly speaking, the districts below the literacy level of 35 can be classified as 'poor', between 35 and 50 as 'moderate' and 50 plus as 'good' levels. The over-all picture shows that about one-third of the districts are in the 'poor', about two-fifth in the 'moderate' and the remaining in the 'good' categories. While looking at the male and female levels, we find that about one-sixth and two-third districts are in the categories of 'poor' and 'good' among males as against one-eighth among females. The urban picture is quite reasonable among males while it is moderate in rural areas. The female literacy in the rural areas is extremely unsatisfactory and reasonably moderate in urban areas. The areas with low level of literacy can be associated with low level of educational infrastructure.

Districts have been classified into three categories namely, 'poor', 'moderate', and 'good' taking into consideration the level of literacy by sex in the rural and urban areas of each district. The composite index shows that 223 districts are in the category of 'good' districts, 208 districts are in the 'moderate' while 21 districts are in 'poor' categories. The first category of 'good' districts covers a population of 411 million, the 'moderate' category covers 395 million and the remaining 30 million population is in the 'poor' category. In terms of target for achieving the goal of universal literacy, 'good' districts are expected to achieve it by 1996, 'moderate' category by 2001 and the 'poor' category by 2006 but such districts must attain the goal of universal literacy in the population in the age-group of 5-14 years by 2001. The details of the location of these districts in various states and Union Territories have been presented in Table 6, giving information regarding the target date, number of districts, the total population of the districts and name of the districts.

Table 6 clearly shows that all the districts in Goa, Kerala, Mizoram, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Andaman & Nicobar, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Delhi, Lakshadweep and Pondicherry are expected to attain universal literacy by 1996. Four districts in Arunachal Pradesh, 3 districts in Bihar, 1 district in Madhya Pradesh, 3 districts in Rajasthan and 10 districts in Uttar Pradesh have very low level of literacy and are expected to achieve the goal of universal literacy by 2006 and the remaining districts except the above two categories of districts are expected to attain the goal by 2001.

The strategies to be adopted to attain the goal of universal literacy are not based on the simple extrapolation of the past trend which estimates two to four decades but on the future need supported by sincere efforts on the part of state authorities. Formal educational infrastructure and management has not only to play a major role but has to be more efficient, has to provide better quality of education and must respond to changing needs by extending more attractive and personal services so that children are not drawn towards other economic and social activities. It must create an atmosphere of incentive for the children rather than compulsion. The formal education is to be further supported by non-formal, vocational and adult literacy programmes.

TABLE 6 : IDENTIFICATION OF DISTRICTS IN DIFFERENT STATES/UT BY TARGET OF ACHIEVING UNIVERSAL LITERACY

<i>Target Category</i>	<i>No. of districts</i>	<i>Population</i>	<i>Name of Districts</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Andhra Pradesh			
Target 1996	6	1,82,17,002	West Godavari, Krishna, Nellore, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Hyderabad.
Target 2001	17	48,137,557	Srikakulam, Vijianagaram, Visakhapatnam, E. Godavari, Guntur, Prakasam, Anantapur, Kumool, Mahboobnagar, Rangareddi, Medak, Nizamabad, Adilabad, Karimnagar, Warangal, Khammam, Nalgona
Target 2006	Nil	Nil	Nil
Arunachal Pradesh			
Target 1996	2	1,32,706	West Siang, Dirang Valley
Target 2001	5	5,05,820	West Kameng, Lower Subansiri, East Siang, Lohit, Tirap
Target 2006	4	2,19,866	Tawang, East Kameng, U. Subansiri, Changlang
Assam			
Target 1996	21	20,307,108	Kokrajhar, Bongaigaon, Barpeta, Nelbari, Kamrup, Darrang, Sonitpur, Lakhimpur, Dhemaji, Marigaon, Nagaon, Golaghat, Jorhat, Sibsagar, Dibrugarh, Tinsukia, K. Anglong, N.Cachar Hill, Karimganj, Hailakandi, Cachar
Target 2001	2	19,87,454	Dhubri, Goalpara
Target 2006	Nil	Nil	Nil
Bihar			
Target 1996	2	47,76,782	Palna, Gumla
Target 2001	37	77,008,517	Nalanda, Bhojpur, Rohtas Aurangabad, Jehanabad, Gaya, Nawada, Saran, Siwan, Gopalganj. P. Champaran, Purba-Champ, Purnia, Muzaffarpur, Vaishali, Begusarai, Darbhanga, Madhubani, Saharsa, Katihar, Khagaria, Mungher, Bhagalpur, Godda, Sahibganj, Dumka, Deoghar, Dhanbad, Giridih, Hazaribag, Palamli, Lohardaga, Ranchi, P. Singhbhum, P. A. Singhbhum, Araria, Samastipur

Table 6 (conld on p. 149)

Table 6 (contd. from p. 148)

Bihar (contd.)			
Target 2006	3	45,53,554	Kishanganj, Madhepura, Sitamarhi
Goa			
Target 1996	2	11,68,622	North Goa, South Goa
Target 2001	Nil	Nil	Nil
Target 2006	Nil	Nil	Nil
Gujarat			
Target 1996	17	3,60,67,478	Jamnagar, Rajkot, Amreli, Surendra Nagar, Bhavnagar, Junagadh, Kachchh, S. Kantha, Mahesana, Gandhi Nagar, Ahmedabad, Kheda, Vadodara, B. Bharuch, Surat, Valsad, The Dangs
Target 2001	2	51,06,865	Banas Kantha, Panch Mahals
Target 2006	Nil	Nil	Nil
Haryana			
Target 19%	12	1,18,03,561	Ambala, Yamuna Nagar, Kurukshetra, Kamal, Panipat, Sonapat, Rohtak, Faridabad, Gurgaon, Rewari, Mahendragardh, Bhiwani
Target 2001	4	4,514,154	Kaithal, Jind, Hisar, Sirsa
Target 2006	Nil	Nil	Nil
Himachal Pradesh			
Target 1996	10	50,09,328	Chamba, Kangra, Hamirpur, Una, Bilaspur, Mandi, Kullu, Shimla, Solan, Sirmaur
Target 2001	2	1,01,751	Lahul Spiti, Kinnaur
Target 2006	Nil	Nil	Nil
KarnaUka			
Target 19%	15	3,51,22,787	Bangalore, Belgaum, Bijapur, Chikmagalur, Chitradurga, Dakshin Kannad, Dharwad, Hassan, Kodagu, Kolar, Mandya, Mysore, Shimoga, Tumkur, Uttar Kannad
Target 2001	5	96,83,681	Bangalore-Rural, Bellary, Bidar, Gulbarga, Raichur

Table 6 (contd on p. 150)

Table 6 (contd.jromp. 149)

Karnataka (contd.)			
Target 2006	Nil	Nil	Nil
Kerala			
Target 19%	14	29,032,828	Kasaragod, Kannur, Wayanad, Kozhikode, Malappuram, Palakkad, Thrissur, Emakulam, Idukki, KoUayam, Alappuzha, Pathanamthina, Kollam, Thiruvananthapuram
Target 2001	Nil	Nil	Nil
Target 2006	Nil	Nil	Nil
Madhya Pradesh			
Target 1996	9	1,41,14,310	Sagar, Indore, Betul, Hoshangabad, Jabalpur, Narsimhapur, Seoni, Balaghat, Durg
Target 2001	35	5,10,80,943	Morena, Bhind, Gwalior, Datia, Shivpuri, Guna, Chhatapur, Panna, Damoh, Satna, Rewa, Sahadol, Sidhi, Mandsour, Ratlam, Ujjain, Shajapur, Dewas, Ihabua, Dhar, W. Nimar, East Nimar, Rajgarh, Vidisha, Bhopal, Sehore, Raisen, Mandla, Chindwara, Suraguja- gaon, Raipur, Bastar
Target 2006	1	9,40,609	Tikamgarh
Maharashtra			
Target 1996	26	71,126,300	Greater Bombay, Thane, Raigarh, Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg, Nasik, Dhule, Jalgaon, Ahmadnagar, Pune, Satara, Sangli, Solapur, Kolhapur, Aurangabad, Osmanabad, Latur, Buldana, Akola, Amravati, Yavatmal, Wardha, Nagpur, Bhandara, Chandrapur, Gadchiroli
Target 2001	4	76,21,915	Jalna, Parbhani, Bid, Nanded
Target 2006	Nil	Nil	Nil
Manipur			
Target 1996	4	10,78,751	Tamenglong, Churachandpur, Imphal, Ukhral
Target 2001	4	7,47,963	Senapati, Chandel, Thoubal, Bishnupur
Target 2006	Nil	Nil	Nil

Table6(conldonp.151)

Meghalaya			
Target 1996	2	8,74,622	East Khasi Hills, West Khasi Hills
Target 2001	3	8,86,004	Jaintia Hills, East Garo Hills, West Garo Hills
Target 2006	Nil	Nil	Nil
Mizorami			
Target 1996	3	6,86,217	Aizawi, Lunglei, Chhimituipui
Target 2001	Nil	Nil	Nil ^v
Target 2006	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nagaland			
Target 1996	5	8,32,536	Kohima, Phek, Zunheboto, Wokha, Mokokchung
Target 2001	2	3,83,037	Tuensang, Mon
Target 2006	Nil	Nil	Nil
Orissa			
Target 19%	6	18,027,332	Sambalpur, Sundargarh, Baleshwar, Cuttack, Dhenkanal, Puri
Target 2001	7	13,484,738	Kendujhar, Mayurbhanj, Phulabani, Balangir, Kalahandi, Koraput, Ganjam
Target 2006	Nil	Nil	Nil
Punjab			
Target 1996	8	13,609,471	Gurdaspur, Amritsar, Ludhiana, Jalandhar, Rupnagar, Patiala, Kapurthala, Hoshiarpur
Target 2001	4	65,81,324	Ferozpur, Sangrur, Bathinda, Faridkot
Target 2006	Nil	Nil	Nil
Rajasthan			
Target 19%	Nil	Nil	Nil
Target 2001	24	39,766,215	Sri Ganganagar, Bikaner, Jhunjhunu, Alwar, Bharatpur, Dholpur, Sawai Madhopur, Jaipur, Sikar, Ajmer, Tonk, Jaisalmer, Jodhpur, Nagaur, Pali, Sirohi, Bhilwara, Udaipur, Chittaurgarh, Dungarpur, Banaswara, Bundi, Kota, Jhalawar

Table 6 (contd. from p. 151)

Rajasthan (contd)			
Target 2006	3	41,14,425	Banner, Jalor, Churn
Sikkim			
Target 1996	4	4,05,505	N. Sikkim, West Sikkim, East Sikkim, South Sikkim
Target 2001	Nil	Nil	Nil
Target 2006	Nil	Nil	Nil
Tamil Nadu			
Target 1996	21	55,638,318	Madras, Chengai-Anna, North Arcot, Dharmapuri, Tiruvannamalai, South Arcot, Salem, Periyar, Nilgiri, Coimbatore, Duidigul-Quaid- E-Milleth, Tiruchirappalli, Thanjavur, Pudukkottai, Pasumpon Thevar, Madurai, Kamarajar, Ramanathapuram, Chidambaram, Kattaboniman, Kanniyakumari
Target 2001	Nil	Nil	Nil
Target 2006	Nil	Nil	Nil
Tripura			
Target 1996	3	27,44,827	West Tripura, North Tripura, South Tripura
Target 2001	Nil	Nil	Nil
Target 2006	Nil	Nil	Nil
Uttar Pradesh			
Target 1996	8	68,09,005	Uttar Kashi, Chamoli, Tehri Garhwal, Dehradun, Garhwal, Pithoragam, Almora, Kanpur Nagar
Target 2001	45	108,762,471	Nainital, Saharanpur, Hardwar, Muzaffamagar, Meerut, Ghaziabad, Bulandshahr, Aligarh, Mathura, Agra, Firozabad, Etah, Manipuri, Kheri, Sitapur, Hardoi, Unnao, Lucknow, Rae Bareli, Farrukhabad, Etawah, Kanpur Dehat, Jalaun, Jhansi, Lalitpur, Hamirpur, Banda, Fatehpur, Pratapgarh, Allahabad, Gonda, Faizabad, Sultanpur, Maharajganj, Basti, Gorakhpur, Deoria, Mau, Azamgarh, Jaunpur, Ballia, Ghazipur, Varanasi, Mirzapur, Sonbhadra

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table 6 (conld. from p. 152)

Uttar Pradesh (contd.)			
Target 2006	10	23,459,654	Siddharth Nagar, Barabanki, Bahraich, Shahjahanpur, Pilibhit, Bareilly, Budaun, Rampur, Moradabad, Bijnor
West Bengal			
Target 19%	12	52,708,610	Koch Bihar, Lalpaiguri, Darjeeling, Nadia, N.24-Parganas, S.24- Parganas, Calcutta, Haora, Hugli, Medinipur, Bankura, Bardhaman
Target 2001	5	15,274,122	West Dinajpur, Maldah, Murshidabad, Puruliya, Birbhum
Target 2006	Nil	Nil	Nil
UNION TERRITORIES			
A & N Islands			
Target 1996	2	2,79,111	Andamans, Nicobars
Target 2001	Nil	Nil	Nil
Chandigarh			
Target 1996	1	6,40,725	Chandigarh
Dadra & Nagar Haveli			
Target 1996	1	1,38,401	Dadra & Nagar Haveli
Daman & Diu			
Target 1996	2	1,01,439	Daman, Diu
Delhi			
Target 19%	1	93,70,475	Delhi
Lakshadweep			
Target 19%	1	5,1,681	Lakshadweep
Pondicherry			
Target 1996	4	8,07,045	Pondicherry, Karaikal, Mahe, Yanam

The districts which have been classified as 'good' need marginal creation of educational infrastructure in selected socially and economically weak pockets, strengthening of non-formal system to attract child-labour and implementation of adult literacy programme in a big way. The 'moderate' districts require strengthening of educational infrastructure, particularly in rural areas and among females, development of non-formal and adult literacy programmes. The districts classified as 'poor' need special drive in the overall development of educational infrastructure throughout the district, particularly for females, and support to

non-formal and adult literacy programmes. Involvement of private and voluntary agencies in non-formal and adult literacy programmes in a big way is very much needed for economic and management reasons. Education Commission Report of 1966, the National Literacy Mission of 1978 and the National Policy on Education of 1986 are the change agents to boost the programmes for universalisation of literacy and education in quite a sizable way. It can safely be said that literacy programme will not work in isolation but will have a positive role in other social and economic programmes leading to the well-being of the masses.

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