DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 060 431                                              AC 012 447

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TITLE           Magnitude of Illiteracy in India (1961-1981).
INSTITUTION     National Council of Educational Research and
                Training, New Delhi (India).
PUB DATE        Nov 71
NOTE            32p.

EDRS PRICE      MF-$0.65 HC-$3.29
DESCRIPTORS     Academic Achievement; Adults; Age; *Census Figures;
                Children; Data Analysis; Educational Facilities;
                Educational Needs; *Educational Programs; Enrollment
                Trends; *Functional Illiteracy; Laborers; Population
                Growth; *Primary Education; *Standards; Statistical
                Data; Surveys; Youth
IDENTIFIERS     *India

ABSTRACT
            An attempt to estimate the growth of literacy in
India in the next 20 years is presented. Consideration is taken of
existing facilities and the likely increase of present literacy
programs. The point is made that the expansion of primary education
was mainly responsible for the growth of literacy in the country.
Estimates presented are based on school enrollment in the past and
the anticipated school enrollment in the future up to 1981. Two age
groups of 5-9 and 10-14 were chosen for this study. The total number
of literates in each age group was broken into its component parts in
terms of the school enrollment in the age group in the year 1961 and
the previous years in the standard accepted initially as the minimum
level for census literacy. Data analysis showed that the number of
literates in these age groups calculated from the school enrollments
in 1961 and the preceding years fell far below the number of
literates as enumerated in the census. It is concluded that
completion of the second standard of the primary education in India
enables one to achieve literacy of the level laid down by the Census
of India. It is also concluded that the bulk of the working force in
the country will remain in the same state of illiteracy in the next
20 years as at present, and will require at least another 20 years
for achieving 100 per cent literacy of the Census level, if the
present conditions are to continue indefinitely in the future.
(CK)