

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6738
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2003
ASSISTANCE TO PEOPLE OF MINORITY ORIGIN
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has established the National Minorities Finance Development Corporation to assist people to minority origin;
- (b) the extent to which this body been able to help minorities to improve their livelihood;
- (c) the amount of loans given by this Corporation in 2002-2003;
- (d) whether there are plans to extend the activities of this body; and
- (e) the steps are proposed to assist the minority communities to enter the business sector and create their own opportunities during 2003-2004?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN)

- (a) Yes, Sir. National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMFDC) was set up by Government of India in September 1994, as an apex body to promote economic development of backward sections of minorities comprising of Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists & Parsis.
- (b) Since inception, NMFDC has so far assisted 1,78,398 individuals belonging to minorities to take up self-employment with a total disbursement of loans of Rs. 469.70 crore.
- (c) In 2002-2003, loan of Rs. 73.93 crore have been given by the Corporation.
- (d) Besides publicity and simplification of procedures, new schemes, namely, Educational Loan Scheme, Mahila Samridhi Yojana, Revolving Fund Scheme, Vocational Training Scheme and Marketing Support to artisans have been launched.
- (e) During 2003-04, a sum of Rs. 109.00 crore has been earmarked for financing business activities in various fields.