

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3325
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2006
SOCIAL SECTOR BENEFITS TO RELIGIOUS MINORITIES
Fanthome Shri Francis

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government is considering any scheme to enhance social sector benefits to religious minorities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the spheres of the social sector being considered in this connection; and
- (c) the measures proposed by the Government to enhance social sector support to minorities?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (A.R. ANTULAY)

(a) to (c) Government is committed to ensuring the welfare of the minorities. The Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the welfare of minorities is a major step in this direction.

Further, the report of the working group on 'Empowering the Minorities' for the XIth Plan set up by the Planning Commission contains a number of proposals for educational, social and economic development of minorities.