

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:237
ANSWERED ON:18.02.2009
LOANS TO MINORITY COMMUNITIES
Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has directed the banks to give priority in loan disbursement to entrepreneurs belonging to the minority community running the micro, small and medium enterprises; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount of loan disbursed to these communities by banks during the last three years and the current year, State-wise including Bihar?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) & (b): In order to ensure that minority communities secure, in a fair and adequate measure, the benefits from various Government sponsored Special programmes, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) have advised the domestic Scheduled Commercial Banks to ensure smooth flow of bank credit to Minority Communities. The RBI Circular No. RPCD.No.SP.BC.6/09.10.01/2008-09 dated July 1, 2008 to this effect is available on website of RBI at www.rbi.org.in. Further in October 2007, Public Sector Banks were advised to step up their lending to Minority communities to 15% of their Priority Sector Lending over the next three years i.e. by the end of 2009-2010.

RBI has reported that it does not collate separately the loans given to the Minority Communities under Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. However, State-wise, including Bihar, total loans (outstanding) of Scheduled Commercial Banks to Minority Communities is given in the Annexure.