

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2326
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2009
SCHEMES FOR MINORITY ARTISANS
Barq Shri Shafiqur Rahman

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has launched any scheme for providing financial assistance to the minority workers/artisans;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the workers/artisans are getting full benefits of this scheme;
- (d) if so, the number of the minority workers/artisans benefitted State-wise; and
- (e) the reasons for selecting only 3000 artisans out of total seven lakh artisans existing in Moradabad district of Uttar Pradesh despite fixing a limit of 48,000?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a),(b) & (c) National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC), a Central Public Sector Enterprise working under the Ministry of Minority Affairs provides loans to persons belonging to minorities, living below double the poverty line for undertaking self employment and income generating activities including minority workers/artisans. Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) has been implementing six generic schemes for the development of the handicrafts sector, the beneficiaries of which include artisans from the minority category also. The schemes for the promotion and development of handicrafts sector in the country include Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana, Handicraft Artisans Comprehensive Welfare scheme, Marketing Support and Services scheme, Design and Technology Up-gradation scheme, Human Resource Development scheme and Research & Development scheme.

(d) A statement showing State-wise total number of persons belonging to minorities including minority workers/artisans assisted by NMDFC (till 31-10-2009) is at Annexure.

(e) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.