

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5004
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2010
EDUCATIONAL UPLIFTMENT OF MINORITIES
Das Shri Ram Sundar;Shankar Alias Kushal Tiwari Shri Bhisma

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Sachar Committee in its report had observed that the minorities, particularly Muslims, are the most backward community educationally;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to promote education among this community during the last three years;
- (c) the number of educational institutes opened by the Government in Muslim dominated areas during the last three years alongwith the details of education from primary level to higher level and technical education imparted therein;
- (d) whether the Government has any scheme to bear all expenses relating to education to the children of minority community including expenditure on study material, uniforms, boarding and lodging;
- (e) if not, whether the Government proposes to formulate such scheme in future; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) As per the Sachar Committee Report, the literacy rate among Muslims is 59.9%, which is higher than literacy rate among SCs / STs (52.7%). Besides, as per the report, in 2004-05 the Muslim enrolment rate was slightly higher than that of the OBCs. The percentage of graduates as proportion of population by age group in 2004-05, is also higher (3.4%) among Muslims than SCs / STs (2.2%). However, a number of steps have been taken by the Government to promote education among minorities including Muslims. The steps include, implementation of three scholarship schemes namely pre-matric, post- matric and Merit-cum-means scholarship schemes for students belonging to minority communities. Besides, Maulana Azad National Fellowship Scheme for M.Phil. and Ph.D. students and Free Coaching & Allied Scheme have been implemented for minority students.

(c) Under Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP), which is a special area development programme, sanctions have been given for construction of 559 school buildings, 6679 additional class rooms, 37 hostels and 34 laboratories for primary, secondary, higher secondary / college education in 90 minority concentration districts (MCDs) where there is substantial minority population including Muslims.

(d) to (f) Presently, there is no such scheme where all expenses relating to education to the children of minority community including expenditure on study material, uniforms, boarding and lodging is born by the Government. However, educational upliftment of minorities through implementation of schemes, programmes and initiatives is an ongoing process and the Government is committed towards that objective.