

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINORITY AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3615  
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2011  
CONSTITUTION OF NATIONAL DATA BANK  
Misra Shri Pinaki;Rajesh Shri M. B.

**Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government constituted a National Data Bank pertaining to socio-religious categories of the minorities related to Sachar Committee Report;
- (b) if so, the status of its functioning alongwith the cost involved in creating such a database;
- (c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to create such a database;
- (d) whether there is poor availability of information about socio religious categories in the country;
- (e) if so, the time by which a comprehensive data base is likely to be collected;
- (f) whether any data base already existing that depict the situation of minorities; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS(SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

- (a) : Sachar Committee had recommended for creation of a National Data Bank (NDB) where all relevant data for social -religious would be maintained. The Government has accepted the recommendation and also has decided to locate the National Data Bank in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
- (b) : Government has entrusted the responsibility of creating such a data bank in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. The Planning Commission has also constituted an Assessment and Monitoring Authority (AMA) to place the data demands on the NDB. The AMA has constituted a Working Group to look into the availability of data by socio-religious categories (SRCs) especially in selected beneficiary oriented programmes. As the data are to be collected by different Ministries / Departments, no cost estimates have been prepared for the creation of the database. Presently the work is being done within the budgetary provisions of the Computer Centre, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
- (c) : Does not arise.
- (d) : The database on social and religious categories is mostly limited to data available from census and surveys.
- (e) : As the identification, creation and maintenance of socio-religious database is a continuous activity, no time frame has been fixed.
- (f) : Yes, Madam.
- (g) : The reports of the National Sample Surveys provide certain information on the situation of the socio-religious categories. The population Census also provides some details of the religious and social groups in the country.