

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:140
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2012
WELFARE OF MINORITY WOMEN
Tanwar Shri Ashok;Thakor Shri Jagdish

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the schemes including those for skill development being implemented by the Union Government for the welfare of women belonging to the minority communities including Muslims in the country;
- (b) the funds allocated and spent and achievements made under these schemes during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme-wise and State-wise;
- (c) whether any success has been achieved in meeting the requisite targets;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Union Government for the effective implementation of these schemes in order to improve the condition of minority women in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

A Statement referred in the reply to (a) to (e) for Lok Sabha Starred Question No 140 asked by Shri Ashok Tanwar and Shri Jagdish Thakor regarding welfare of Minority women to be answered on 22nd March 2012.

(a) The following schemes are implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs exclusively for minorities which concern welfare of minority women including Muslims:

(i) Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme:-Under this Scheme, scholarships are awarded to minority students who have secured not less than 50% marks in the previous final examination and the annual income of their parents/ guardian from all sources does not exceed Rs. 1.00 lakh. 30% of the scholarships are earmarked for girl students.

(ii) Post-matric Scholarship Scheme:- Under this Scheme, scholarships are awarded to minority students who have secured not less than 50% marks or equivalent grade in the previous final examination and the annual income of whose parents/ guardian from all sources does not exceed Rs.2.00 lakh. 30% of the scholarships are earmarked for girl students.

(iii) Maulana Azad National Fellowship For Minority Students:-The objective of the Fellowship is to provide integrated five year fellowships in the form of financial assistance to minority students to pursue higher studies such as M.Phil and Ph.D. The Fellowship covers all Universities/Institutions recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC). 30% of the scholarships are earmarked for girl students.

(iv) Merit-cum Means based Scholarship: The Merit-cum Means based Scholarship Scheme provides financial assistance to the poor and meritorious minority students at graduate and post-graduate levels. 30% of the scholarships are earmarked for girl students.

(v) Free Coaching and Allied Scheme: Under the scheme candidates belonging to the minority students, financial assistance to the coaching institutes in Government and the private sector for imparting free coaching/training to these candidates for Competitive Exams, Information Technology, Remedial coaching and other employment oriented courses etc. 30% of the scholarships are earmarked for girl students.

(vi) National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC) implements the micro financing scheme which specifically focuses on women belonging to minority community Self Help Groups (SHGs). Women constitute over 90% of the beneficiaries under this micro financing scheme.

Under skill development, NMDFC is implementing the Scheme of Mahila Samridhi Yojana exclusively for women. This scheme is meant for providing training cum credit for poor minority women. Under the NMDFC skill development programme including Mahila Samridhi Yojana, instead of allocation of funds, targets are assigned in terms of number of persons to be trained.

The National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) also extends concessional loans for self employment and income generating activities to the persons belonging to minority communities including women. Under the term loan scheme of NMDFC, loans are extended to the individuals belonging to Minorities to the tune of maximum Rs. 5.00 Lakhs. Over 35% of the beneficiaries under this scheme are women.

NMDFC has a scheme of Vocational Training where 85% grant of the training cost to the maximum of Rs. 1,000 per month per candidate for courses of maximum duration of 6 months plus a stipend of Rs. 500 per month is given to the candidates including minority girls / women.

(b) to (d) : The funds allocated, spent and achievements against the targets set during the last three years including the current year are given below:

(i) The amount released under the Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme, Post Matric Scholarship Scheme and Maulana Azad National Fellowship together with percentage of scholarships availed by girl students are at Annex I to VI.

(ii) The financial and physical achievement under the Merit –cum– Means Scholarship Scheme, Free Coaching and Allied Scheme and the NMDFC skill development programme including Mahila Samridhi Yojana is at Annex-VII.

(iv) Funds allocated, spent (disbursed) and achievements (utilization) made during the last three years under the lending schemes of term loans and micro finance of NMDFC is at Annex –VIII.

(v) A table showing State wise achievements of training imparted to women beneficiaries for the last three years and the current financial year is at Annex- IX.

(e) The Ministry is taking various steps for the effective implementation of these schemes which include:

(i) For effective monitoring of the Multi- sectoral Development Programme, the Ministry conducts regular review of the progress with the States/UTs. The Oversight Committee at the centre reviews the implementation periodically. In addition, the State and District level committees review the implementation of the programme.

(ii) Online Scholarship Management System (OSMS) was introduced in 2011-12 for Merit-cum-Means scholarship for better transparency and accountability.

(iii) A team of empanelled National Level Monitors appointed by the National Productivity Council have undertaken physical visits to the various districts to monitor the schemes implemented by the Ministry.