

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINORITY AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5604  
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2012  
FUNDS FOR WELFARE OF MINORITIES  
Misra Shri Pinaki

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the startling figure published in the media dated February 20, 2010 quoting data from Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability, a Delhi based think-tank, that only 5 percent of the Plan funds are being spent on minorities welfare;
- (b) if so, the efforts being made by the Government to enhance the spending of the allocated plan funds for minorities welfare;
- (c) the identified bottlenecks for the underutilization of plan funds as allocated for the minority welfare; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): The Government is aware of the news item. The Ministry of Minority Affairs was carved out in 2006 to exclusively look after the Welfare of Minority Communities. The Plan fund allocation and utilization by the Ministry have significantly gone up during the 11th Five Year Plan as may be seen from the table below:

Year	Allocation (Rs. in crore)		Expenditure (Rs. in crore)		% of Utilization with reference to	
	Budget Estimates	Revised Estimates	Budget Estimates	Revised Estimates		
2007-08	500.00	350.00	196.65	39.33	56.19	
2008-09	1000.00	650.00	619.02	61.90	95.23	
2009-10	1740.00	1740.00	1709.42	98.24	98.24	
2010-11	2600.00	2500.00	2008.86	77.26	80.35	
2011-12	2850.00	2750.00	2292.27	80.43	83.36	

(c): The main reasons/bottlenecks in full utilization of funds are as follow:

- i) Implementation of the major schemes of the Ministry, such as, pre-matric, and Multi- sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) for selected Minority Concentration Districts (MCDs) could commence in 2008-09 only.
- ii) Non-submission of complete and adequate proposals by the State Governments for MsDP and delay in the submission of Utilization Certificate.
- iii) Promulgation of model code of conduct due to elections in several States which delayed sanction of funds.
- iv) Insufficient proposals received from States and UTs especially from North Eastern States for Scholarship schemes. As a result, the unutilized funds for North Eastern States had to be surrendered as per existing provision.
- v) Non-receipt of 'in-principle' approval by competent authority for the implementation of 4 proposed new Schemes.

(d): The Ministry has taken steps to give wide publicity of the welfare schemes for the minority communities to generate awareness for these schemes through the print and electronic media. Uploading of the data on minority welfare schemes implemented by various Ministries and State Governments/UTs Administrations has been made mandatory. Activity wise time-lines have been laid down and communicated to the States/UTs under the Scholarship Schemes. Online Scholarship Management System (OSMS) has been developed and launched for the on-line application for the Merit-cum-Means Scholarship scheme which is being extended for the Post-Matric Scholarship scheme also. Regular review meetings with the officials of the State government are held to expedite the implementation of the programmes. In addition, the officials of the Ministry visit States/UTs to review and inspect the implementation of projects under various schemes/programmes.