

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:440
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2012
SURVEY TO IDENTIFY THE MINORITIES
Jakhar Shri Badri Ram

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government proposes to conduct a survey to identify the Muslims and other minorities living below poverty line in every State particularly in Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the pace of implementation of the same;
- (c) whether the Central Government propose to reduce the 25 percent population criteria to 15 percent for selection of minority districts during 12th Five Year Plan in view of the new census results;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the number of districts in Rajasthan likely to be included as minority districts as a result of the above?

Answer

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

(a) : No, Madam.

(b) : Does not arise.

(c) & (d): The Working Group on 'Empowerment of Minorities' constituted by the Planning Commission for the formulation of 12th Five Year Plan, has suggested that the unit of planning should be Block having 25% minority population during the 12th Plan. If for any reason (say lack of data), this could not be possible, then population criterion to identify Minority Concentration Districts (MCDs) should be brought down from 25% to 15%. In case of six States where minority community is in majority, a lower cut off of 15% minority population in the block, other than that of minority community in majority in that State/UT, is proposed to be adopted.

(e): If the above criterion is adopted, a total of 10 Blocks falling in 5 districts will be eligible as Minority Concentration Blocks (MCBs) in Rajasthan as per the available data.