

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1645
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2012
MULTI SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Sayeed Muhammed Hamdulla A. B.

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether under the Multi-Sector Development Programme, 91 districts across the country, where more than 25% of minority population lives, have been identified for their development;
- (b) if so, the details of the districts in the States/Union Territories, State/UT- wise; and
- (c) the criteria fixed for such identification?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) & (b): Multi-Sectoral Development Programme is implemented in 90 Minority Concentration Districts across the country. List of 90 Districts is Annexed.

(c): The identification of these 90 Minority Concentration Districts has been carried out as follows:-

- (i) Districts with a 'substantial minority population' of at least 25% of the total population were identified in 29 States/UTs.
- (ii) Districts having a large absolute minority population exceeding 5 lakhs and the percentage of minority population exceeding 20% but less than 25% were identified in 29 States/UTs.
- (iii) In the six States/UTs, where a minority community is in majority, districts having 15% of minority population, other than that of the minority community in majority in that State/UT were identified.

Thereafter, the position of these districts in terms of "backwardness" was evaluated against the two sets of socio-economic and basic amenities indicators. 90 Minority Concentration Districts (MCDs) have been identified throughout the country which are relatively backward and falling behind the national average in terms of socio-economic and basic amenities indicators.

The Guidelines of Multi-Sectoral Development Programme (MSDP) is available on the website of Ministry of Minority Affairs.