

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4402
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2012
INTRODUCTION OF DIVERSITY INDEX
Biswal Shri Hemanand

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to introduce a diversity index or an equivalent indicator to measure inequalities in areas like education, employment and housing among minorities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the criteria it covers and the time by which this index is likely to be introduced in studies and reports;
- (c) whether the diversity gap index that was proposed in the report of the Expert Group in 2008 is likely to be implemented; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI NINONG ERING)

(a) to (d): As a follow up of the decision of the Government to implement the Sachar Committee recommendations, an expert group on diversity index was set up on 28th August, 2007 to, inter-alia, develop and devise a transparent and acceptable index to measure diversity in the areas of education, government and private employment and housing. The expert group submitted its report on 24th June, 2008 recommending, among other things, a conceptual framework of the diversity index and its construction. The concept of having a diversity index has been subsumed in the proposal for setting up of an Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC).