

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4594
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2012
CONDITION OF INDIAN MUSLIMS
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Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a): whether the Washington based U.S. India Policy Institute has in its recent report concluded that the condition of Indian muslims has gone bad to worse; .

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the remedial measures taken/being taken by the Government in the matter ?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Washington based U.S. India Policy Institute has brought out a report titled "Inclusive Development Paradigm in India – A post-Sachar Perspective". The follow up action on Sachar Committee recommendations was started in 2007-08. The study report pertains to the period from 2004-05 to 2009-10 which covers only 2-3 years of follow up action taken by the Government on the Sachar Committee Report. This is a very short period rather too early to evaluate the impact of the follow up actions. As such, the major observations made in the report are as under:

(i) Literacy levels are considerably high in urban areas and this advantage is uniformly similar for all Socio Religious Categories. Overall the upper caste Hindus and other minorities living in urban areas have highest levels of literacy of over 90%; and rural literacy among these groups is about 80%. However, the level of literacy amongst the SCs, STs, Muslims OBCs and Muslims-general category have similar levels of literacy both in urban and rural areas, but at much lower levels compared to the other two groups.

(ii) Relatively speaking Muslims are urban dwellers and improvement in urban literacy amongst the Muslim-general group has been low during 2004-05 to 2009-10; and overall the improvements in literacy levels for both types of Muslim groups has to catch up with the levels recorded at least in case of the SCs and the STs.

(iii) The improvements at matric levels of education during 2004-05 to 2009-10, is the least amongst the both categories of Muslims (almost uniform levels) and considerably lower than improvements amongst the SCs and STs.

(iv) While the literacy level and amount of improvements were modest for Muslims compared to other communities; at the level of the matric (10 years of schooling) the situation of Muslims drops both in terms of levels and improvements to very low levels.

(v) The trend of exclusion of Muslims gets further aggravated at the higher levels of literacy where a net decline is noticed instead of improvement in case of the general-Muslim category, and hardly an improvement even in case of OBC-Muslims, and

(vi) If the SCs/STs are singled out and compared with religious groups, the report find that Muslims in most of the measures about the same or even lower. With the adjustments for initial conditions, the conditions of Muslims relative to the SCs/STs have worsened over the years.

(c): Government is taking follow up action on Sachar Committee recommendations and major achievements are as under :

(i) For educational empowerment of minorities 121.91 lakh scholarships under Pre-matric scholarship Scheme, 17.87 lakh scholarships under Post-matric Scholarship Scheme and 1.67 lakh under the Merit-cum-means scholarship scheme have been awarded during the 11th Plan period. Besides, following infrastructure facilities for education have been created during the 2006-07 to 2011-12 in the districts with substantial minority population :

- Primary schools constructed : 15,489

- Upper Primary schools constructed : 8020

- Additional classrooms constructed : 1,96,390

- New Primary Schools opened : 21,180

- Upper Primary schools opened : 11,639

- Secondary schools approved : 906

- No. of teachers sanctioned : 1,15,216

- KGBVs operationalised : 517

(ii) Under the Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madrasas funds of Rs. 367.86 crore have been released for 26004 madarasas since inception of the scheme in 2009-10 to 2012-13 (upto 30th September, 2012). Under the scheme of Infrastructure Development of Minority Institutions, funds of Rs.91.24 crore have been released to 528 institutions since inception of the scheme in 2009-10 to 2012-13 (upto 30th September, 2012).

(iii) Under the Multi-sectoral Development Programme which envisages area development in the identified 90 minority concentration districts, approval to project proposals for Rs.3733.90 crore have been given during the 11th Plan and Rs.2035.93 crore was released to the States/UTs as on 31.3.2012. During 2012-13, projects worth Rs.812 crore have been approved and Rs.426 crore released till date

(iv) The share of Priority Sector Lending by public sector banks to minorities has been steadily rising from 10.6% in 2007-08 to 15.01% in 2012.-13 (upto Sept.,2012).

(v) 5954 new bank branches were opened in minority concentration areas during the period from 2007-08 to 2011-12.

(vi) Under various components of JnNURM, projects worth Rs.81673.98 crore have been sanctioned for minority concentration towns/cities during 2007-08 to 2012-13 (upto September, 2012).