

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINORITY AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2782  
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2013  
SPECIAL SCHEMES FOR WELFARE OF MINORITIES  
Raghavendra Shri B. Y.

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to introduce any special schemes for the welfare of minorities during the 12th Five Year Plan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the objectives of such schemes and the time -frame fixed to achieve the target?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c) Yes, Madam. The following new schemes have been included for implementation during the Twelfth Five Year Plan for the welfare of the minorities:-

- (i) Scheme for Interest subsidy on educational loans for overseas studies for the students belonging to minority communities to provide financial assistance by way of extending interest subsidy on education loans for pursuing higher studies abroad.
- (ii) Scheme for Skill Development Initiatives to enhance employment and livelihood skills of minorities by providing skills and skills up-gradation to the minority communities.
- (iii) Scheme for Support for students clearing Prelims Conducted by UPSC/SSC, State Public Service Commission (PSC) etc to support candidates from the minority communities who qualify at the preliminary examinations conducted by Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), Staff Selection Commission (SSC), State Public Service Commissions (PSCs) etc. to improve their representation in government services.
- (iv) Scheme for containing population decline of small minority community to arrest the declining population trend of small minority community, viz Parsis.
- (v) Scheme for Strengthening of State Waqf Boards to provide financial assistance to State Waqf Board for strengthening them in order to improve their performance.
- (vi) Scheme for promotion of education in 100 minority concentration towns/cities having substantial minority population, for empowering the minorities to provide infrastructure for various levels of schools, including teaching aids and also for up-gradation and construction of infrastructure for skill and vocational education along with hostel facility.
- (vii) Scheme for Village development programme for villages not covered by minority concentration blocks (MCBs)/ minority concentration districts (MCDs) to provide infrastructure for socio-economic development and basic amenities.
- (viii) Scheme for Support to Districts Level Institutions to give financial support for setting up of and running district level institutions for minority welfare in Minority Concentration Districts.
- (ix) Free bicycle for Girl Students of Class IX for retention of minority girl students from Class IX onwards.

The schemes at Sr. No. (vi) to (ix) above have been merged with the existing Multi-sectoral Development Programme.