

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINORITY AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:220  
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2013  
SETTING UP OF EOC  
Haque Shri Sk. Saidul

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to set up an Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken by the Government for the setting up of the National Data Bank;
- (d) whether the National Skill Development Board and National Skill Development Corporation have taken any steps in different States for the development of minorities;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the community-wise details of Priority Sector Lending?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. A High Level Committee under the chairpersonship of Justice (Retd.) Rajindar Sachar had, inter alia, made recommendation for setting up of an Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC) to address the grievances of deprived groups. Government had set up an Expert Group to examine and determine, inter alia, the structure and functions of an EOC. Based on the Expert Group Report, recommendations of Group of Ministers constituted for this purpose and comments/ inputs received from various stakeholders, a draft Equal Opportunity Commission Bill for setting up of EOC is under consideration of the Government.

(c) As a follow-up action on the Sachar Committee recommendations, the mandate to set up National Data Bank was given to the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation. A National Data Bank web page has been created on the website of Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, which at present contains 97 tables on population, education, health and labour & Employment.

(d) & (e) Prime Minister's National Council on Skill Development, National Skill Development Coordination Board and the Office of Adviser to PM on Skill Development have been subsumed into the National Skill Development Agency (NSDA). The NSDA is an autonomous body located in the Ministry of Finance. One of the major functions assigned to the NSDA is to ensure that the skilling needs of the disadvantaged and the marginalized groups like Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs), minorities, women and differently-abled persons are taken care of. So far as the erstwhile National Skill Development Coordination Board is concerned, the basic function was to coordinate the skill development activities in the country. The National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) has been set up as a not for profit company, under the M/o Finance, primarily to catalyse private sector initiatives in skill development. Individual Ministries are implementing schemes targeted at different social groups including the minorities.

(f) Community-wise details of Priority Sector Lending for the year 2012-13 & 2013-14 (upto September, 2013) is given below:

(Rs in Crore)

Year Amount outstanding of minority communities by Public Sector Banks

	Muslims	Christians	Sikhs	Buddhists	Zoroastrians	Total
2012-13 (as on 31.03.2013)	83780.25	45469.65	41433.86	12260.86	2289.91	185234.35
2013-14 (as on 30.09.2013)	93600.50	42968.43	54729.80	4278.67	3528.07	199105.47