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**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(2009-2010)**

(FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

Action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment on Demands for Grants for the year 2009-2010 of the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

SEVENTH REPORT



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

July, 2010/Asadha, 1932 (Saka)

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Action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment on Demands for Grants for the year 2009-2010 of the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

Presented to Lok Sabha on 19.8.2010

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 19.8.2010



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI

July, 2010/Asadha, 1932 (Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT (2009-2010)**

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN - CHAIRMAN

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri T.R. Baalu#
3. Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal*
4. Shri E.T. Mohamed Basheer
5. Smt. Bijoya Chakravarty
6. Shri Bhudeo Choudhary
7. Smt. Rama Devi
8. Shri R. Dhruvanarayana
9. Shri Premchand Guddu
10. Shri G.V. Harsha Kumar
11. Shri Baliram Jadhav
12. Dr. Manda Jagannath
13. Shri Mohan Jena
14. Shri Baliram Kashyap
15. Shri Basori Singh Masram
16. Shri Kamlesh Paswan
17. Shri Yashvir Singh**
18. Dr. N. Sivaprasad
19. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya
20. Shri Manohar Tirkey
21. Vacant
22. Vacant

MEMBERS

RAJYA SABHA

23. Shri Suryakantbhai Acharya\$
24. Smt. Jharna Das Baidya\$\$
25. Shri Avtar Singh Karimpuri
26. Shri Narayan Singh Kesari
27. Shri Mahmood A. Madani
28. Shri Ahmad Saeed Malihabadi
29. Shri Abdul Wahab Peevee@
30. Shri Praveen Rashtrapal
31. Shri Nand Kishore Yadav@@

#Shri T.R. Baalu nominated to the Committee w.e.f. 11.1.2010.

*Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal ceased to be a Member of Committee w.e.f. 23.9.2009.

**Shri Yashvir Singh ceased to be a Member of Committee w.e.f. 13.10.2009.

\$Shri Suryakantbhai Acharya expired on 21.12.2009.

@Shri Abdul Wahab Peevee ceased to be a Member of Committee consequent upon his retirement from Rajya Sabha w.e.f. 2.4.2010.

\$\$ Smt. Jharna Das Baidya nominated to the Committee w.e.f. 26.4.2010.

@@ Shri Nand Kishore Yadav ceased to be a Member of Committee consequent upon his retirement from Rajya Sabha w.e.f. 4.7.2010.

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1. Shri. A. Mukhopadhyay - Joint Secretary
2. Smt. Anita Jain - Director
3. Dr. Sagarika Dash - Under Secretary

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Seventh Report on the action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants – 2009-2010 relating to the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

2. The Third Report was presented to Lok Sabha and laid in Rajya Sabha on 17th December, 2009. The Ministry of Minority Affairs furnished their replies indicating action taken on the recommendations contained in that Report on 9.4.2010. The Report was considered and adopted by the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment at their sitting held on 8th July, 2010.

3. An analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) is given in **Appendix**.

4. For facility of reference observations/recommendations of the Committee have been printed in thick type in the body of the Report.

5. The Committee place on record their appreciation for the valuable assistance rendered to them by the officials of the Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

NEW DELHI:

8 July, 2010
17 Asadha, 1932 (Saka)

DARA SINGH CHAUHAN

**Chairman,
Standing Committee on
Social Justice and Empowerment.**

CHAPTER - I

REPORT

1.1 This Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment deals with the action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Third Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants 2009-10 relating to the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

1.2 The Third Report was presented to Lok Sabha and laid in Rajya Sabha on 17th December, 2009. It contained 18 observations/recommendations. Replies of Government in respect of all the observations/recommendations have been examined and are categorised as under: -

- (i) Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government:

Paragraph Nos. 1.5, 3.20, 3.21, 4.17, 4.19, 5.14, 5.15, 6.10, 6.11, 7.14, 8.17, 8.18, 9.7 and 9.8).

(Total 14 - Chapter II)

- (ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government:

(Nil - Chapter III)

- (iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted and which need to be reiterated in Chapter I:

Paragraph Nos. 2.12 and 5.16.

(Total 2 - Chapter IV)

- (iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government are of interim in nature:

Paragraph Nos. 4.18 and 9.9

(Total 2 - Chapter V)

1.3 The Committee desire that action taken notes on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I and final action taken notes in respect of the recommendations contained in Chapter -V of this Report may be furnished to them at the earliest and in any case not later than three months of the presentation of the Report.

1.4 The Committee will now deal with some of the replies received from the Government which need reiteration or merit comments.

A. Filling up of vacant posts in the Ministry of Minority Affairs

Recommendation (Sl. No. 2, Para 2.12)

1.5 In paragraph 2.12 of the original Report the Committee had observed that though the Ministry of Minority Affairs was created in January, 2006 and is going to enter the fourth year of its existence, yet the organizational set up of the Ministry is still incomplete with a number of posts lying vacant. The Committee had noted with concern that out of 97 sanctioned strength as on date only 66 posts have been filled and 31 posts at various levels are still vacant. The Committee has further learnt that the matter regarding framing of recruitment rules in respect of Urdu posts are still being finalized. The non-filling of so many posts in the Ministry has a direct bearing on the prompt and efficient handling of issues in the Ministry. India with a vast man-power resource centre with so many qualified people in various fields, the non-availability of adequate expert staff should not come in the way of smooth and efficient functioning of the Ministry. The Committee felt that it is only when all the posts are filled up and the Ministry have a dedicated staff that the

Ministry will be able to carry out its mandate effectively. The Committee had, therefore, urged the Ministry to urgently look into the matter relating to staff strength and take all necessary steps for filling up of all vacant posts at the earliest. If need arises, the Ministry of Finance should also be approached at the appropriate level. Meanwhile, the available staff may be effectively utilized for successful implementation of various welfare schemes launched/to be launched by the Ministry.

Reply of the Government

1.6 The Ministry in their Action Taken Note have informed that the present sanctioned strength of the Ministry is 93 and 27 posts as shown below are vacant as on date. The Ministry thus carries a vacancy of nearly 30% in core cadres and despite this, performs its work with great difficulty.

Sl. No.	Name of the post	Number of vacant posts	Action Taken for filling up the posts
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1.	Director/Deputy Secretary	01	DoPT has nominated one officer for filling up the vacant post shortly.
2.	Under Secretary	03	The Ministry has been making consistent efforts to fill up the vacant posts. The matter has been taken up with DoPT / MHRD, the cadre controlling authorities, for filling up these vacant posts. The Ministry had issued a Vacancy circular on 08/12/2009 to different Ministries/Departments besides posting the same in the website of this Ministry inviting applications from the prospective candidates for filling up the 3 posts of Under Secretaries , 4 posts of Section Officers and 6 posts of Stenographer Gr. 'D' on adhoc-short term deputation basis as the posts sanctioned vide orders dated 26/10/2009 are yet be en-cadred
3.	Section Officer	04	
4.	Stenographer Gr. 'D'	06	

			<p>by DoPT (for US and Stenographer posts) and MHRD (for Section Officer posts). Ministry has received only 01 eligible application against 03 vacant posts of Under Secretaries and two applications for four vacant posts of Section Officer. No application has been received against Stenographer posts.</p> <p>The applications received are under process now.</p>
5.	Assistant Director(Urdu)	01	An Urdu cell has been created in this Ministry with one post each of (i)Assistant Director (Urdu), ii)Sr. Translator (Urdu) and iii)Typist (Urdu) .
6.	Senior Translator (Urdu)	01	Advertisement inviting applications for filling up of above posts on an adhoc deputation basis, was published in the Employment News (English, Hindi & Urdu edition) dated 18-24 July, 2009 for the applicants working in Government/PSUs/Govt. Autonomous Bodies.
7.	Typist (Urdu)	01	<p>While 03 applications were received for the post of Asstt. Director (Urdu) from officers working in Government/Autonomous Bodies, applicants for Senior Translator/Typist were not working in Government. Therefore, their candidatures stand cancelled. Regarding appointing Assistant Director (Urdu), the matter is under process and will be finalized shortly.</p>
8.	Assistant	01	Ministry of HRD has been requested to fill up the post .
9.	Senior Research Investigator	01	At present, the Ministry has 04 sanctioned posts of Sr. Research Investigator and 04 posts of Sr. Investigator.
10.	Senior Investigator	03	<p>In order to fill up the vacancies, the Ministry had issued vacancy circular for filling up these posts on deputation basis. An advertisement was also published in the Employment News dated 23-29 May, 2009 besides posting the vacancy circular on the Ministry's website.</p> <p>The Ministry received only one eligible application in response to the advertisement.</p>

			<p>One post of Senior Investigator has thus been filled up in December, 2009. Ministry's efforts to en-cadre the above posts with either subordinate Statistical Service Cadre or subordinate Economic Service Cadre could not materialize.</p> <p>The Ministry again proposes to advertise the above vacant posts shortly.</p>
11.	Peons	04	<p>In pursuance of Sixth Pay Commission's Report regarding ban on further recruitment in Group D posts, the Ministry has engaged 04 persons against vacant position of 04 Peons through outsourcing.</p>

(Ministry of Minority Affairs O.M. No.G-20011/2/2009-10-Budget dated April 9, 2010)

1.7 The Committee had observed that the organisational set up of the Ministry was inadequate and incomplete with a large number of posts lying vacant and had recommended the Ministry to take necessary steps for filling up the vacant posts at the earliest. The Ministry in their Action Taken Reply has informed that the Ministry carries vacancy of nearly 30% in core cadres and performs its work with great difficulty. In spite of their best efforts in advertising and inviting applications from prospective candidates, the Ministry has received only 1 eligible application against 3 vacant posts of Under Secretaries, two applications for four vacant posts of Section Officer and 1 eligible application against 3 posts of Sr. Investigator. Further, for six posts of stenographers, not a single application was received. Similarly, though applications were invited for filling up the posts of Asstt. Directors (Urdu), Sr. Translators (Urdu) and Typists (Urdu), only 03 applications were received for the posts of Asstt. Director (Urdu) from officers working in Government/Autonomous Bodies, whereas applicants for Senior Translator/Typist (Urdu) were not working in Government for which their candidature was cancelled. Further the Ministry's

efforts to encadre posts of Senior Research Investigator and Senior Investigator with subordinate statistical service/Economic Service Cadres could not materialize and the Ministry again propose to advertise the same. From the reply of the Ministry which reflect very poor response for filling up the vacancies where only few applicants applied for various posts, the Committee can not but conclude that the publicity (through advertisements) given to these vacancies among the prospective candidates has been limited, inadequate and not enough. It also appears that enumeration of strict eligibility criteria for selection has also led to poor response from the applicants. Therefore, the Committee desire that apart from giving wide publicity through electronic media, newspapers among applicants in the Government services/PSUs and Autonomous Bodies, the Ministry should review the selection criteria for all the above posts and relax the same wherever possible so that these do not lie vacant for too long. The Committee also recommend that the Ministry should take up the matter of staff strength with the Ministry of HRD and DoPT for urgent filling of the vacant posts to ensure smooth functioning of Ministry and the effective implementation of minority welfare schemes.

B. Data on Below Poverty Line/Double Poverty Line of Minority Communities

Recommendation (Sl. No. 4, Para No. 3.21)

1.8 The Committee had noted with concern that the Ministry of Minority Affairs did not have data pertaining to Minority communities living below the poverty line and they were depending on the data on BPL as maintained by the Ministry of Rural Development. The Committee had noted that the BPL data as it was being maintained by the Ministry of Rural Development was more of a generalized nature which did not give specific information relating to the economic condition of the minority communities separately on the basis of religion. Unless the Ministry have specific data on economic status of enlisted minority communities of Muslims, Sikhs, Christians etc., it is difficult to formulate the

programmes and also assess the programmes/schemes over a period of time. In this regard, the Committee were given to understand that the Ministry is depending on the income certificates only. But in the opinion of the Committee income certificates is not reliable and could be easily manipulated where the already affluent persons get the benefit of a particular scheme while the poorest of the poor were still deprived of the benefits. Therefore, the Committee had recommended that the Ministry, besides coordinating with the Ministry of Rural Development on BPL data, should try on their own to collect and maintain the data on the economic status of the enlisted minorities so that the benefits of the schemes could go to the target population and the number of beneficiaries of minority communities could be assessed properly.

Reply of the Government

1.9 The Ministry of Minority Affairs in their reply have stated that the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) is the nodal Ministry for rural poverty alleviation and collection of BPL data in rural areas. The methodology of MoRD surveys has several parameters including income. However, as seen on their website, MoRD does not maintain religion-wise BPL data. It requires huge administrative exercise and substantial financial and human resources for such a vast survey. For the BPL Census conducted in 2002 , the MoRD had incurred an expenditure of Rs.79.34 crore. The estimated expenditure for the BPL Census 2009 is likely to be Rs.312 crore. It would thus not be advisable for other Ministries to carry out such a detailed survey as this would be a duplication as the MoRD conducts such surveys.

Schemes of Ministry of Minority Affairs are based on income criteria and not on BPL status of beneficiaries. NMDFC is the only Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSE), under the Ministry of Minority Affairs which extends financial assistance to the persons belonging to minorities living below double the poverty line. Coverage of NMDFC schemes

is very small compared to the overall usage of BPL data and they depend on the MoRD list plus income certificate from competent authorities.

The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) undertakes detailed house-hold survey for identification of BPL families. The Ministry of Rural Development had informed the Ministry of Minority Affairs in the month of September 2009, that they are conducting the BPL Census 2009, for which MoRD had constituted an expert group to suggest the methodology for conducting the survey. On 17.12.2009, this Ministry had requested the Ministry of Rural Development to collect the information / data on religious parameters in the BPL survey in respect of the five notified Minorities viz. Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and Parsis. Further, the Ministry of Rural Development had also been requested to collect the detailed family data on minority community basis (notified religious minorities), in respect of BPL families. Repeated reminders have since been sent to the Ministry of Rural Development seeking information on the outcome of the request made.

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation (HUPA), has also been requested to collect information/data for identification of BPL families on religious basis in urban areas, so that in the BPL lists, the minority community to which a person belongs to is indicated.

Conducting a survey of BPL and DBPL families in the country is a mammoth task requiring substantial human and financial resources. Since the survey is already being carried out by Ministry of Rural Development, duplication of the same may not be advisable. There are dedicated Ministry/organizations such as Ministry of Rural development that carry out such surveys. They have the requisite competence and manpower and have been conducting such surveys periodically. Therefore in view of the huge cost, manpower and efforts required for conducting such an exercise it has been considered advisable to approach them for this work. Ministry of Minority Affairs will follow

up with Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation for providing data pertaining to minority communities living below the poverty line.

1.10 The Committee had noted with concern that the Ministry of Minority Affairs did not have data pertaining to Minority communities living below the poverty line and they are depending on the data on BPL as maintained by the Ministry of Rural Development. Since the data collected by the Ministry of Rural Development are more of a general nature not giving any specific details with regard to BPL status of minorities, the Committee had recommended that the Ministry besides coordinating with the Ministry of Rural Development on BPL data, should try on their own to collect and maintain the data on the economic status of the enlisted minorities so that the benefits of the schemes could go to the target population and the number of beneficiaries of minority communities could be assessed properly. The Ministry in their Action Taken Note have stated that the Ministry of Rural Development are already conducting BPL survey 2009 and have been requested to collect information/data on religious parameters in BPL survey in respect of five notified minorities and also the detailed family data on minority community basis (notified religious minorities), in respect of BPL families. The Ministry have also informed that the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation (HUPA) has also been requested to collect information/data for identification of BPL families on religious basis in urban areas, so that in the BPL lists, the minority community to which a person belongs to is indicated. The Ministry has contended that since BPL survey is already being carried out by Ministry of Rural Development, duplication of the same may not be advisable. The Committee while agreeing with the Ministry's reasoning desire that the Ministry to closely co-ordinate with Ministry of Rural Development along with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation

(HUPA) to ensure inclusion in the BPL survey the collection of requisite data pertaining to minority communities living below the poverty line/double below the poverty line. The Committee would like to be apprised of the parameter finally selected by Ministry of Rural Development for inclusion in the BPL survey and how far they meet the requirements of Ministry.

C. Conferment of the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Literacy Award

Recommendations (Sl. No. 10, Para No. 5.16)

1.11 The Committee had noted that the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Literacy award which was introduced in 2003-04 was being given to institutes who were doing considerable work to promote education amongst educationally backward minorities. The Committee had observed that upto the year 2005, the award used to be given regularly. However, in the year 2006 three institutions had been selected but hadn't been conferred the award as yet. Moreover, from the year 2006 onwards this award had not been sanctioned to any institution for reasons not known to the Committee. Since the award is a way of recognizing the work/efforts of institutions in the field of promoting education among the minorities and encouraging more and more institutions to come forward and work for the cause of development of minorities, the discontinuation of this award is not at all advisable. Therefore, the Committee had recommended that the Ministry should look into the matter urgently for identifying and sorting out the problems/hurdles being faced in this regard and all necessary steps should be taken for resuming the conferment of this award as early as possible.

Reply of the Government

1.12 The Ministry of Minority Affairs in their reply have stated that the scheme of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Literacy Award is given to institutions, those who have done commendable work to promote education amongst educationally backward minorities.

This award was discontinued from the year 2005-06 due to poor response given to the scheme by Vice-chancellors, and people's representatives to whom request had been made to recommend institutions for this award.

Perforce there arises a need to review the existing procedure in respect of this scheme. Accordingly, the Ministry has advised the MAEF to devise certain parameters, on the basis of which the eligibility of an advised /or individual for consideration for this award, can be decided. The MAEF in consultation with its Governing Body is working on the need of a better mechanism to make this scheme effective and purposeful.

1.13 The Committee had noted that the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Literacy award which was introduced in the year 2003-04 used to be given to the institutes doing considerable work to promote education among educationally backward minorities. However, from the year 2006 onwards this award had not been sanctioned to any institution. Therefore, the Committee had recommended that the Ministry should look into the matter urgently for identifying and sorting out the problems/hurdles being faced in this regard and take necessary steps for resuming the conferment of this award as early as possible. From the action taken reply of the Ministry the Committee are given to understand that this award was discontinued from the year 2005-06 due to poor response given to the scheme by Vice-chancellors, and people's representatives to whom request had been made to recommend institutions for this award and as such there is a need to review the existing procedure in respect of this scheme. The Ministry has advised the MAEF to devise certain parameters, on the basis of which the eligibility of an advised/or individual for consideration for this award can be decided. The MAEF in consultation with its governing body is working on the need of a better mechanism to make the scheme effective and purposeful. The Committee are unhappy to note that though the award

has been discontinued from 2005-06 and four years have since passed its last conferment, the Ministry/MAEF are still in the process of devising the parameters of eligibility criteria etc. for the award. The Committee feel that remedial action should have been initiated immediately after non-conferment of award in 2005-06 so that it should have been resumed by the next year. Therefore, the Committee recommend the Ministry to advice the MAEF to finalize the eligibility parameters urgently so that there is no delay in resuming the award and it is conferred from the next year itself.

CHAPTER – II

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Sl. No. 1, Para No. 1.5)

2.1 The Committee are not satisfied with the implementation aspect of the recommendations contained in their Twenty sixth and Thirty fifth Reports on Demands for Grants 2007-08 and 2008-09 respectively. The Committee desire that the Government should implement all the remaining recommendations of the Committee contained in their Twenty-sixth and Thirty-fifth Reports expeditiously and they should be apprised of the action taken by the Government in implementation of the specific recommendations which are yet to be implemented.

Reply of the Government

2.2 The Ministry of Minority Affairs have stated in their written reply that Ministry has implemented or is in the process of implementing all the observations/recommendations contained in 26th Report and 35th Report.

(Ministry of Minority Affairs O.M. No.G-20011/2/2009-10-Budget dated April 9, 2010)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 3, Para 3.20)

2.3 The Committee observe that there has been huge variation in the BE &RE as well as gross under utilization of allocated funds under both Plan and Non-Plan heads. Against the planned budgetary allocation of Rs. 500 crore in 2007-08 and Rs. 1000 crore in 2008-09 the actual expenditure was only Rs. 196.65 crore and Rs. 618.62 crore respectively. Similarly, there was surrender of funds to the tune of Rs. 303 crore in 2007-08 and Rs. 30 crore in 2008-09 under the plan heads. The reasons cited by the Ministry that underutilization and surrender took place due to late approval of designated schemes,

unavoidable procedural delays, non-receipt of sufficient number of proposals from States/UTs under the Coaching and Allied Schemes, all three scholarship schemes and the Multi Sectoral Development Programme and non-submission of utilization certificates by the States, do not seem to be convincing to the Committee. They feel that these issues could have been tackled effectively with better planning and co-ordination with States. The Committee feel that the Ministry is already 3 years old for completion of procedural formalities with regard to the schemes. As regarding procedural delay the Committee desire that the procedures of various schemes should be streamlined and simplified to avoid the undue delay. The Committee find that even the Ministry themselves have accepted that the procedures for some schemes were cumbersome and the timelines were such that these schemes could not take off as per schedule. In this regard, the Committee regret to note that funds crucial for the development of minorities which should have been released on time could not be released due to sheer negligence & inaction on the part of the Ministry and also to some extent State Governments/UTs. The Committee, therefore, strongly desire that the Ministry should take concrete steps to impress upon the State Governments to utilize all the unspent balances lying with them and also submit utilization certificates on time so that funds for on- going schemes are not withheld. The Committee also advise the Ministry to make Budgetary projections under various schemes more accurate and realistic in order to avoid reduction of funds at the RE stage, under utilization and surrender of funds.

Reply of the Government

2.4 As envisaged in the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities three scholarship schemes, namely, merit –cum-means scholarship, Post-matric scholarship and Pre- matric scholarship were formulated and launched on 21.06.2007, 29.11.2007 (2007-08) and 01.04.2008 (2008-09) respectively. Also, a Free Coaching and Allied Scheme for candidates and students belonging to the Minority Communities was

revised in 2007-08 and modified further in 2008-09 has also been launched. Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) for 90 Minority Concentration Districts (MCD) is also being implemented since 2008-09. Pace of implementation of all the scholarship schemes and others schemes/programems launched by this Ministry, has now picked up as would become evident from the following statement:-

Schemes	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
	Financial Achievement	Financial Achievement	Financial Achievement
1. Pre-matric		Rs. 62.20 crore	Rs.202.94 crore
2. Post- matric	Rs. 9.63 crore	Rs. 70.63 crore	Rs148.74 crore
3. Merit –cum-means	Rs. 40.80 crore	Rs.64.73 crore	Rs. 97.51 crore
4.Free coaching and Allied scheme	Rs. 5.74 crore	Rs.7.30 crore	Rs. 11.22 crore
5.Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP)	-	Rs.270.85 crore	Rs.973.02 crore
6. Research/studies, Monitoring & Evaluation of development schemes for minorities including publicity	Rs.10.48 crore	Rs.7.97 crore	Rs.12.00 crore
7.Maulana Azad Education Foundation	Rs.50 crore	Rs.60 crore	Rs.115 crore
8.National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation	Rs. 70 crore	Rs.75 crore	Rs.125 crore
9.Grants–in-aid to State Channelising Agencies	Rs. 10 crore	Rs.00 crore	Rs.2.0 crore
10. Maulana Azad National Fellowship for Minority Student	Rs.14.90 crore
11. computerization of records of State Wakf Boards	----	---	Rs.8.06 crore
12. Leadership Development of Minority Women	-----	---	0.00

Secretariat	---	Rs. 0.34 crore	Rs.0.50 crore
Total	Rs. 196.65 crore	Rs,619.02 crore	Rs.1710.89 crore

The performance of the Ministry during the year, 2009-10 is much better than that in the last financial year 2008-09 as the actual expenditure is more than 98% of the plan outlay of Rs.1740 crore for the financial year 2009-10.

Funds are released to the States/UTs/implementing agencies on receipt of utilization certificates. After release of funds, the States/UTs are exhorted to utilize the funds and implement the schemes/programmes in a time bound manner.

Three new schemes namely, (i) Maulana Azad National Fellowship for Minority Student (ii) Grants-in-aid for computerization of records of State Wakf Boards (iii) Scheme for Leadership Development of Minority Women have been formulated and launched. Implementation of first two schemes has commenced. However the implementation of the third scheme, namely, Scheme for Leadership Development of Minority Women would pick up during the year 2010-11, as the process of inviting applications from organization/institutes to impart training to women has been initiated by publishing advertisements in various newspapers all over the country in March 2010.

(Ministry of Minority Affairs O.M. No.G-20011/2/2009-10-Budget dated April 9, 2010)

Recommendations (Sl. No. 4, Para 3.21)

2.5 The Committee note with concern that the Ministry of Minority Affairs do not have data pertaining to Minority communities living below the poverty line and they are depending on the data on BPL as maintained by the Ministry of Rural Development. The Committee note that the BPL data as it is being maintained by the Ministry of Rural

Development is more of a generalized nature which does not give specific information relating to the economic condition of the minority communities separately on the basis of religion. Unless the Ministry have specific data on economic status of enlisted minority communities of Muslims, Sikhs, Christians etc., it is difficult to formulate the programmes and also assess the programmes/schemes over a period of time. In this regard, the Committee are given to understand that the Ministry is depending on the income certificates only. But in the opinion of the Committee income certificates are not reliable and can be easily manipulated where the already affluent persons get the benefit of a particular scheme while the poorest of the poor are still deprived of the benefits. Therefore, the Committee recommend that the Ministry, besides coordinating with the Ministry of Rural Development on BPL data, should try on their own to collect and maintain the data on the economic status of the enlisted minorities so that the benefits of the schemes could go to the target population and the number of beneficiaries of minority communities is also assessed properly.

Reply of the Government

2.6 The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) is the nodal Ministry for rural poverty alleviation and collection of BPL data in rural areas. The methodology of MoRD surveys has several parameters including income. However, as seen on their website, MoRD does not maintain religion-wise BPL data. It requires huge administrative exercise and substantial financial and human resources for such a vast survey. For the BPL Census conducted in 2002 , the MoRD had incurred an expenditure of Rs.79.34 crore. The estimated expenditure for the BPL Census 2009 is likely to be Rs.312 crore. It would thus not be advisable for other Ministries to carry out such a detailed survey as this would be a duplication as the MoRD conducts such surveys.

Schemes of Ministry of Minority Affairs are based on income criteria and not on BPL status of beneficiaries. NMDFC is the only Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSE), under the Ministry of Minority Affairs which extends financial assistance to the persons belonging to minorities living below double the poverty line. Coverage of NMDFC schemes is very small compared to the overall usage of BPL data and they depend on the MoRD list plus income certificate from competent authorities.

The Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) undertakes detailed house-hold survey for identification of BPL families. The Ministry of Rural Development had informed the Ministry of Minority Affairs in the month of September 2009, that they are conducting the BPL Census 2009, for which MoRD had constituted an expert group to suggest the methodology for conducting the survey. On 17.12.2009, this Ministry had requested the Ministry of Rural Development to collect the information / data on religious parameters in the BPL survey in respect of the five notified Minorities viz. Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and Parsis. Further, the Ministry of Rural Development had also been requested to collect the detailed family data on minority community basis (notified religious minorities), in respect of BPL families. Repeated reminders have since been sent to the Ministry of Rural Development seeking information on the outcome of the request made.

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation (HUPA), has also been requested to collect information/data for identification of BPL families on religious basis in urban areas, so that in the BPL lists, the minority community to which a person belongs to is indicated.

Conducting a survey of BPL and DBPL families in the country is a mammoth task requiring substantial human and financial resources. Since the survey is already being carried out by Ministry of Rural Development, duplication of the same may not be advisable. There are dedicated Ministry/organizations such as Ministry of Rural

development that carry out such surveys. They have the requisite competence and manpower and have been conducting such surveys periodically. Therefore in view of the huge cost, manpower and efforts required for conducting such an exercise it has been considered advisable to approach them for this work. Ministry of Minority Affairs will follow up with Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation for providing data pertaining to minority communities living below the poverty line.

(Ministry of Minority Affairs O.M. No.G-20011/2/2009-10-Budget dated April 9, 2010)

Recommendations (Sl. No. 5, Para 4.17)

2.7 The Committee regret to note that under the scheme of Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP), though 90 minority concentration districts have been identified for overall development based on parameters of economic backwardness, as on 31st March, 2009, plans of only 47 minority concentration districts in Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal have been approved and an amount of only Rs. 270.85 crore as against the allocated Rs. 539.80 crore have been expended. The reply of the Ministry in this regard that plans of all minority concentration districts were not received from States/UTs seems to be casual and non-convincing because the Committee feel that considerable time has been lost in getting the plans of all the districts approved as a result of which funds allocated at BE stage are being reduced drastically at the RE stage for successive years. The Committee desire that during the current year itself plans of all the minority concentration districts should be approved expeditiously so that the funds allocated during the current financial year is utilized gainfully within stipulated time period. In this direction, the Ministry instead of merely directing the remaining States for sending the plans, have to proactively orient, inform and guide these States for early finalization of their plans. A time schedule has to be framed in this regard so that the process does not go on indefinitely.

Reply of the Government

2.8 The scheme of Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) for 90 identified Minority Concentration Districts (MCDs) could be implemented only from 2008-09 as the scheme was approved only on 28th of March, 2008 and no expenditure could be incurred in 2007-08. The budget provision under MsDP was reduced to Rs.280 crore at RE stage only in 2008-09 as it was the first year of implementation and district plans had to be approved before release of funds. For 2009-10, the BE and RE figures remain unchanged and an amount of Rs.973 crore (98%) has been utilized out of budgetary allocation of Rs.990 crore under MsDP.

District plans are required to be prepared in such a manner that the development deficits of the districts are addressed in the order of priority ranked by a baseline survey, so that various interventions under the MsDP would result in the improvement of backwardness parameters of MCDs and bring them at par with the national averages. The Ministry has been approving proposals in the district plans which are prepared in accordance with the provisions of MsDP and addressing the identified development deficits. For proposals not made in accordance with the MsDP guidelines and not addressing the identified development deficits, the States/UTs are advised to submit revised plans.

80 minority concentration districts have been approved up till March, 2010. In order to ensure that the district plans are approved in full during 2010-11, the Chief Secretaries and Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries of the concerned departments of the State Governments/UT administrations have been advised to submit the districts plans at the earliest.

(Ministry of Minority Affairs O.M. No.G-20011/2/2009-10-Budget dated April 9, 2010)

Recommendations (Sl. No. 7, Para 4.19)

2.9 The Committee have learnt that as an action plan for addressing the issues relating to housing, health and civic amenities to improve the living conditions and employment prospects of minorities for implementation of PM's New 15 point programme, the Government has formulated the Multi-Sectoral Development Programme. Under the scheme, multi-sectoral district development plan of a district has to be prepared in such a manner that these districts are saturated with schemes included in the Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the welfare of minorities within the 11th Plan period. The Committee have been informed that State level Committee and District level Committee constituted for implementation of the Prime Minister's New 15 point programme also serve as oversight Committee for this Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) at State and District level. The Committee note that as on date 23 States/UTs have constituted Committees under the new 15 point programme. The Committee understand that the Ministry have a very prestigious and flagship programme in the form of Multi-Sectoral Minority Development Programme which is very vast and all inclusive. Keeping in view the scope and reach of the programme, the Committee desire that more State level and District level Committees should be constituted for implementation of the Prime Minister New 15 Point Programme. The Committee also desire that the Budgetary provision made for 2009-10 for this programme should be utilized optimally so that the goal of improving the living condition of minority population and bringing them in the national mainstream is achieved without much delay.

Reply of the Government

2.10 State Governments/UT administrations have been advised to prepare the district plans in such a manner that the development deficits of the districts are addressed in the order of priority ranked by a baseline survey, so that various interventions under the Multi

sectoral Development Programme would result in the improvement of backwardness parameters of minority concentration districts and bring them at par with national averages. They have also been requested to constitute expeditiously the State level and District level committees for implementation of Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities, which also serves as the State/district level committees for implementation of MsDP. As per information received from State Government /UT administration such committees have already been constituted in 19 State/UT out of 20 States/UT where these minority concentration districts are located. Information in respect of Arunachal Pradesh has not been made available by the State Government. The implementation of Multi sectoral Development Programme in minority concentration districts has been taken up with earnest by the Ministry and the States/UTs concerned and an amount of Rs.973 crore has been utilized out of budgetary allocation of Rs.990 crore for 2009-10.

(Ministry of Minority Affairs O.M. No.G-20011/2/2009-10-Budget dated April 9, 2010)

Recommendations (Sl. No. 8, para 5.14)

2.11 The Committee observe that the Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF) was registered in the year 1989 with the objective of formulating and implementing educational schemes and plans for the benefit of educational backward minorities. However, even after 20 years of its existence, the Foundation has so far assisted only 9 NGOs for construction of residential schools exclusively for girls and that too covering only 8/9 States. When a number of NGOs are working in the field of minority development, the Committee fail to understand why such a less number of NGOs have been assisted by the Foundation. Similarly the State-wise details of number of girl students enrolled in the educational complexes availing financial assistance by MAEF is very discouraging where

only 2,72,105 girl students covering only 18 States have been enrolled upto 2007-08. MAEF's efforts in the field of strengthening vocational/technical training centres are also not satisfactory where a total of only 3211 girls have been enrolled in various vocational/training centres aided by MAEF. The Committee have also learnt of discrepancies in sanction of building grants. From this the Committee conclude that at the moment it seems that MAEF is working directionless, without any purpose and set targets. The Committee feel that there is an urgent need to reinvigorate the foundation by instilling greater sense of responsibility in order to make it target oriented and pro-active.

Reply of the Government

2.12 Grant of financial assistance from MAEF is considered only for those NGOs whose applications are received complete in all respects and who meet all the eligibility criteria as given in the grants-in-aid scheme of the Foundation. Since its inception and till date the MAEF has sanctioned grant-in-aid to 18 NGOs specifically for construction of residential schools, where girl students are not debarred and also get enrollment. However, assistance given to 09 NGOs is exclusively for girls. Thus the statistics indicate that the MAEF has assisted more number of NGOs under the grants-in-aid scheme for construction of residential schools where girls also get enrollment. Applications for construction of the residential school building, exclusively for girls being very limited, the MAEF has assisted only 09 NGOs for this purpose.

The MAEF provides financial assistance to NGOs for one purpose at a time; either for construction of school building or for construction of hostel building separately. The number of beneficiaries is indicative, based on data collected from the assisted NGOs during the last 5 years only. However, the actual number of beneficiaries would be higher as the MAEF since its inception and till 31.03.2010 has sanctioned grants-in-aid amounting to Rs. 130.34 crore to 998 NGOs all over the country covering 25 States/UT.

The scheme of grant-in-aid of MAEF has created a sound infrastructure base of institutions run by the NGOs all over the country. The evaluation and impact study of the schemes of the Foundation, conducted by M/s ORG Ltd., an independent agency, has also revealed this.

Efforts are on to give wide publicity to these schemes through newspapers as well as through website. The State Government/UT administrations are also being requested to further publicize these schemes in their respective states/UTs. Further, in order to ensure smooth functioning, increased accountability and transparency the following additional steps have been taken:-

- (i) Organizational infrastructure is being strengthened by restructuring of staff.
- (ii) A Senior Administrative Grade (SAG) level Officer of the Central Government has been posted on deputation, as Secretary to the Foundation to ensure better management and accountability.
- (iii) The organization is being fully computerized. All important information with regard to grants-in-aid to NGOs and scholarship to girl child are available in the website of MAEF ,i.e,www.maef.nic.in
- (iv) An evaluation study by an independent agency (ORG Ltd) on the functioning of the Foundation was conducted during 2006-07. The study was aimed at assessing the impact of the schemes run by the MAEF on the target group and how it has benefited them. The evaluation report was submitted in November, 2007. Based on the recommendation of the evaluation report, necessary action has been taken to enhance the coverage of the Foundation, all over the country and also additional funds have been

provided to its corpus fund for effective implementation of the scheme and programmes run by the MAEF.

- (v) The resources of MAEF have been distributed in State wise manner in order to make sure that every State/UT is covered under the scheme and programme of the Foundations. Prior to 2008-09, no physical and financial targets were set by the MAEF for its Grants-in-aid scheme to NGOs. From the year 2008-09 the MAEF has started setting targets for this scheme.
- (vi) Review meetings on the schemes and programmes of MAEF are being held at periodic intervals at the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

(Ministry of Minority Affairs O.M. No.G-20011/2/2009-10-Budget dated April 9, 2010)

Recommendations (Sl. No. 9, para 5.15)

2.13 The Committee are constrained to note that the scheme of Maulana Azad National Scholarship for meritorious girls students of the Ministry is not doing very well. The Committee find that in the States of Andaman & Nicobar, Arunachal Pradesh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Goa, Lakshadweep and Mizoram not a single beneficiary was given scholarship during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09. Similarly no scholarship was awarded in other States like Chandigarh and Punjab during 2006-07 and Daman & Diu, Pondicherry during 2006-07 and 2007-08. The States of Himachal Pradesh and Nagaland have not sanctioned any scholarship during the year 2007-08 and 2008-09. What is more distressing to the Committee is that the MAEF could not sanction scholarships in the above States/UTs in last three years because eligible applications were not received from these States. The Committee feel that publicity being given to this scheme by the MAEF in National/regional news papers is not adequate. Therefore, the Committee recommend

that the Ministry should advise the MAEF for forwarding the information about the scheme directly to all the minority schools, colleges and educational institutions in order to create awareness amongst the meritorious girls students, so that sufficient number of applications are received from these States/UTs.

Reply of the Government

2.14 Scholarships are sanctioned to meritorious girl students on the basis of receipt of eligible applications. The MAEF couldn't sanction scholarships in these States/UTs in the last three years i.e., 2006-07, 2007-08 & 2008-09, because eligible applications were not received from these States. However, during 2009-10, the MAEF has distributed 15070 scholarships covering 27 States/UTs. Thus there is a increase in the coverage of scholarships in 2009-10 so far as States/UTs are concerned, in comparison to last couple of years when only 25 / 26 States / UTs were being covered.

This achievement has become possible due to sustained publicity given by the Ministry/MAEF to the schemes and programmes of the Foundation. As a result the MAEF has till date distributed scholarships to 41977 beneficiaries throughout the country since the inception of this scheme. In year 2008-09, the MAEF has distributed only 12064 scholarships; in 2009-10, the number of scholarships has gone up as is evident from the figures given above. By the end of the 11th Five Year Plan period, it is planned to distribute higher number of scholarships all over India.

Foundation has not only publicized its scheme in various national newspapers but has also requested the Secretaries (Minority Welfare) of all State Governments to publicize the same in their respective states ensuring receipt of sufficient number of applications from these States.

As a result of the efforts, MEAF has adequate number of applications available to fully utilized the financial resources at its disposal.

(Ministry of Minority Affairs O.M. No.G-20011/2/2009-10-Budget dated April 9, 2010)

Recommendations (Sl. No. 11 and 12, Para 6.10 and 6.11)

2.15 The Committee observe that under the scheme of grants-in-aid to State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs) for implementation of the National Minority Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) programme, assistance in the form of aid is provided to them mainly by the Ministry. The Committee note that grants to the tune of Rs. 10 crore released by the Ministry during 2007-08 could not be fully utilized by the SCAs of NMDFC. Similarly, in the absence of Utilization Certificates from NMDFC, no funds under Grants-in-aid scheme could be released to NMDFC during the year 2008-09. The Committee note with concern that out of Rs. 10 crore released by the Central Government under the scheme, an amount of Rs. 2.66 crore is still unutilized and pending with the SCAs at present. The Committee strongly recommend that the Ministry should take all necessary steps to ensure uninterrupted progress in the implementation of Grants-in-aid scheme so that funds earmarked do not remain unutilized with SCAs for long and prudently utilized within the stipulated time.

2.16 The Committee are given to understand that assistance under Grants-in-aid scheme is on matching basis with the Central and the State Government contributing in the ratio of 90:10. Central Government funds are released in two installments. However, some of the SCAs were not given second installment of funds as their State Governments did not release the 10% contribution. The Committee were also informed that the States contribution so far which ought to be at Rs. 260 crore, is only Rs. 134 crore and it is not forthcoming very easily from the State Governments despite repeated requests from the

Government and the Corporation. The Ministry have further informed that in some cases, the State Government's guarantees are not forthcoming and grass root level recoveries are very poor. The Committee are disappointed to note that despite repeated requests from the Government and the Corporation, the State Governments are not paying any attention towards their share of contribution. The Committee urge the Ministry to inform the State Governments on the serious implications of their casual approach on the overall performance with regard to Grants-in-Aid to State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) engaged for implementation of National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) Programme. The Committee recommend that Ministry should impress upon the State Governments to co-operate, be more supportive and act as State guarantor. The State Governments should be advised to release their share of 10% contribution in time for effective implementation of this NMDFC scheme so that intended benefits reach the target groups.

Reply of the Government

2.17 The Ministry had taken necessary steps to ensure uninterrupted progress in the implementation of grants-in-aid (GIA) scheme so that funds earmarked do not remain unutilized with SCAs for long and are prudently utilized within the stipulated time.

Balance amount of Rs.1, 35, 61,000/- lying unutilized with NMDFC under the GIA Scheme 2007-08 was surrendered to the Ministry on 29.10.2009. Matter regarding early utilization of funds, already released to the State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) under grants-in-aid scheme for the year 2007-08 is being regularly followed up by NMDFC and the Ministry. In this regard, letters have been written to the individual SCAs on 16.11.2009, 21.11.2009, for submitting the utilization certificates. Letters dated 30.11.2009 have also been sent to the respective State Governments requesting them to seek utilization certificates under GIA scheme 2007-08 from the respective SCAs and submit the same to

NMDFC immediately. Besides, the issues of equity contribution to NMDFC and Government guarantee have also been taken up with the State Governments. The State Governments who have not contributed their 10% share in the GIA scheme 2007-08, have been advised to immediately contribute the same to the SCAs. This issue of early utilization of funds under GIA scheme 2007-08 and contribution of 10% share of the State Government was also discussed with the representatives of the SCAs during Mid Term Review meeting held from 14-17th December 2009. The SCAs have assured that the UCs will be submitted at the earliest along with the assurance from the State Governments for contribution of their 10% share in GIA scheme.

The entire amount of Rs. 2 crores for the year 2009-10 under Grants-in-aid scheme had been released to NMDFC by the Ministry. The Ministry had also written to the respective State Govts. on 8.2.2008, 29.2.2008, 12.9.2008 and 25.11.2008 to provide their matching contribution and comply with other issues regarding Grant-in-Aid assistance Scheme. A D.O. letter dated 19.1.10 to Principal Secretaries of the States had been issued impressing upon the State Governments to release their share of 10% contribution in time for effective implementation of the NMDFC scheme.

(Ministry of Minority Affairs O.M. No.G-20011/2/2009-10-Budget dated April 9, 2010)

Recommendations (Sl. No. 13, Para 7.14)

2.18 The Committee note with concern that under the Free Coaching and Allied Assistance scheme during 2007-08 no beneficiaries were imparted training in the States/UTs of Chandigarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Kerala, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Tripura and West Bengal. Similarly during the year 2008-09 there were no beneficiaries in Assam and Jammu & Kashmir. The Committee are further surprised to note that the number of students benefited under the scheme in Rajasthan, Punjab, Orissa have drastically come down in 2008-09 compared to 2007-08. The Committee in this regard are not convinced by these reasons advanced by the Ministry that this is a demand driven scheme and

proposals are sanctioned by the Ministry only when they are received complete in all respects fulfilling the eligibility conditions from the respective State Governments. Since proposals are not forthcoming during the start of the financial year, the Committee desire that the Ministry should direct the State Governments to send the proposals complete in all respect well in advance preferably right at the beginning of the financial year itself so that deficiencies if any in the proposals can be corrected at that stage itself. The Committee also desire that wide publicity should be given about this scheme in the print media and information of this scheme should also be forwarded directly to all minority schools, colleges and educational institutions to create awareness among the poor students of the minority communities so that they could secure admission in technical and professional courses as well as get employment in Government service, public sector undertakings and the private sector.

Reply of the Government

2.19 The Free Coaching & Allied Scheme does not provide for State –wise allocation of funds/students.

The Committee has observed that number of students benefited under the Scheme in Rajasthan, Punjab and Orissa have drastically come down in 2008-09 compared to 2007-08. In this context, it is mentioned that in other States/UTs (like Andhra Pradesh, Chandigarh Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal) number of students benefited are more in 2008-09 as compared to 2007-08. However, during 2009-10, the number of students, who benefited from Rajasthan, Punjab and Orissa are 682, 90, and 230 respectively, as against the respective figures of 75,50 and 75 during 2008-09. Hence there is no uniform trend in this regard among the States.

Wide publicity was given to the scheme by publishing advertisements in newspapers in English, Hindi, Urdu and other Indian languages for inviting proposals from coaching institutes/organizations through State Governments. As a result thereof 74 proposals from various coaching institutes/organizations through State Governments were received in this Ministry before 31st October, 2009.

(Ministry of Minority Affairs O.M. No.G-20011/2/2009-10-Budget dated April 9, 2010)

Recommendations (Sl. No. 14 and 15, Para No. 8.17 and 8.18)

2.20 The Committee are happy to note that during the year 2008-09, against the target of disbursing 3 lakh scholarships under the Pre-matric Scholarship scheme, the Government have disbursed 5.13 lakh scholarships and an amount of 62.21 crore was released for this purpose. Similarly, under the Post-matric Scholarship scheme, against the target of 1.25 lakh scholarships, the Government have disbursed 1.83 lakh scholarships. The Committee are equally satisfied to note that in both the scholarship schemes, the girl students got more than 50 percent share. This is perfectly in tune with the objectives of the scheme that the muslim girls being more underprivileged need special attention. The Committee hope that during the current financial year also both the schemes will be implemented with same level of commitment and the targets will be achieved fully.

2.21 The Committee further appreciate that as against a proposal of Rs. 100 crore for the Pre-matric scholarship scheme for the year 2009-10, the Planning Commission has sanctioned an enhanced allocation of Rs. 200 crore. The Committee, however, observe that as against the target of Rs. 22 lakh for 2009-10, the Ministry have disbursed only Rs. 6.44 lakh scholarships as on 21.10.2009. Though the Ministry appear contended with the above progress stating that they have already achieved more than what they had

achieved during 2008-09, the Committee feel that the Ministry should not show any laxity and complacency in achieving this year's target which is slightly on the higher side. Efforts should be made to utilize the entire amount during the current year so as to avoid any surrender of funds.

Reply of the Government

2.22 The comments of the Hon'ble Committee have been noted for compliance. As directed by the Hon'ble Committee, this Ministry has utilized an amount of Rs. 202.94 crore as against the allocation of Rs. 200 crore under Pre-matric scheme during the year 2009-10 and sanctioned 17.29 lakh scholarships to the States/UTs as against 5.13 lakh scholarships sanctioned during the previous year 2008-09. Against the revised target of 15 lakh scholarships for 2009-10, as indicated in the Outcome Budget – 2010-11, year to year increase in physical achievement is 337%.

(Ministry of Minority Affairs O.M. No.G-20011/2/2009-10-Budget dated April 9, 2010)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 16, Para No. 9.7)

2.23 The Committee note that a new Central sector scheme of National Fellowship for Minority Students is proposed to be introduced with the objective of providing fellowship to the minority communities for pursuing higher studies such as M.Phil and Ph.D. There is a budgetary provision of Rs. 15 crore in 2009-10 and a target of 750 fellowships to be awarded for improvement of academic output and research ability of students of minority. In this regard, the Committee have been informed that proposals are being processed for seeking approval of the competent authority i.e. MOS (IC), Ministry of Minority Affairs and Finance Minister. Hoping that the Ministry of Minority Affairs will be successful in getting early clearance/approval for the scheme, the Committee recommend that efforts should be made for full utilization of the allocated amount during the current financial year and the

target of 750 scholarships should be achieved. At the same time, the Committee desire that budgetary allocation under the scheme should be enhanced so that more minority students are able to pursue higher studies such as M.Phil and Ph.D.

Reply of the Government

2.24 The objective of the scheme is to provide Fellowship in the form of financial assistance to students from the minority communities pursuing higher studies such as M.Phil and Ph.D. The scheme will cover all Universities, institutions, recognized by University Grants Commission (UGC) under Section 2(f) and Section 3 of the UGC Act and will be implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs for minority community students through UGC. 30% of the fellowships are earmarked for female scholars. The scheme has been named as “Maulana Azad National Fellowship for Minority Students”. After due approval, the new scheme has been launched in December 2009. The scheme is being implemented by University of Grants Commission (UGC). Out of the provision of Rs. 15 crore for 756 fellowships for 2009-10, an amount of Rs.14.90 crore was released to UGC for the purpose. UGC has published the advertisement for the scheme in leading newspapers for inviting applications from eligible candidates. Under the scheme, every year 756 fresh fellowships will be added in addition to the eligible renewals of the previous year. Financial allocation during 2010-11 is Rs.30 crore.

(Ministry of Minority Affairs O.M. No.G-20011/2/2009-10-Budget dated April 9, 2010)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 17, Para No. 9.8)

2.25 The Committee have been informed that another new scheme on Computerization of Records of State Wakf Boards is to be implemented in pursuance of the recommendation of the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) on Wakfs in their 9th Report. Under the scheme financial assistance would be released to the State Wakf Boards for

computerization of their records through the Central Wakf Council who would oversee and remain accountable for proper utilization. While welcoming the initiative of the Ministry, the Committee desire that the Government should pursue with the State Governments/State Wakf Boards to discuss the details of the project Report so that proposal is formulated for its appraisal. The Committee hope that this scheme would be implemented soon and the Computerization of Records of State Wakf Boards is achieved in a time bound manner.

Reply of the Government

2.26 This scheme is being implemented in pursuance of the recommendations of the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) on Wakf. Under the scheme, the financial assistance would be provided for computerization of Wakf records of the State Wakf Boards. The scheme is being implemented through National Informatics Centre and State Wakf Boards. The details of the Project Report were considered in consultation with State Governments/ State Wakf Boards. An amount of Rs.480.92 lakh has been released to the NICSI for purchase of hardware/development of software on behalf of the National Informatics Centre. Further than amount of Rs. 325.20 lakh @ Rs. 27.10 lakh per State Wakf Boards has been released to 11 State Wakf Boards and the Central Wakf Council.

(Ministry of Minority Affairs O.M. No.G-20011/2/2009-10-Budget dated April 9, 2010)

CHAPTER – III

**OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE
TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT**

- NIL-

CHAPTER – IV

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED AND HAVE BEEN COMMENTED UPON BY THE COMMITTEE IN CHAPTER - I

Recommendation (Sl. No. 2, Para No. 2.12)

4.1 The Committee observe that though the Ministry of Minority Affairs was created in January, 2006 and is going to enter the fourth year of its existence, yet the organizational set up of the Ministry is still incomplete with a number of posts lying vacant. The Committee note with concern that out of 97 sanctioned strength as on date only 66 posts have been filled and 31 posts at various levels are still vacant. The Committee have further learnt that the matter regarding framing of recruitment rules in respect of Urdu posts are still being finalized. The non-filling of so many posts in the Ministry has a direct bearing on the prompt and efficient handling of issues in the Ministry. India with a vast man-power resource centre with so many qualified people in various fields, the non-availability of adequate expert staff should not come in the way of smooth and efficient functioning of the Ministry. The Committee feel that it is only when all the posts are filled up and the Ministry have a dedicated staff that the Ministry will be able to carry out its mandate effectively. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to urgently look into the matter relating to staff strength and take all necessary steps for filling up of all vacant posts at the earliest. If need arises, the Ministry of Finance should also be approached at the appropriate level. Meanwhile, the available staff may be effectively utilized for successful implementation of various welfare schemes launched/to be launched by the Ministry.

Reply of the Government

4.2 The present sanctioned strength of the Ministry is 93 and 27 posts as shown below are vacant as on date. The Ministry thus carries a vacancy of nearly 30% in core cadres and despite this, performs its work with great difficulty.

Sl. No.	Name of the post	Number of vacant posts	Action Taken for filling up the posts
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1.	Director/Deputy Secretary	01	DoPT has nominated one officer for filling up the vacant post shortly.
2.	Under Secretary	03	<p>The Ministry has been making consistent efforts to fill up the vacant posts. The matter has been taken up with DoPT / MHRD, the cadre controlling authorities, for filling up these vacant posts. The Ministry had issued a Vacancy circular on 08/12/2009 to different Ministries/Departments besides posting the same in the website of this Ministry inviting applications from the prospective candidates for filling up the 3 posts of Under Secretaries , 4 posts of Section Officers and 6 posts of Stenographer Gr. 'D' on adhoc-short term deputation basis as the posts sanctioned vide orders dated 26/10/2009 are yet be en-cadred by DoPT (for US and Stenographer posts) and MHRD (for Section Officer posts). Ministry has received only 01 eligible application against 03 vacant posts of Under Secretaries and two applications for four vacant posts of Section Officer. No application has been received against Stenographer posts.</p> <p>The applications received are under process now.</p>
3.	Section Officer	04	
4.	Stenographer Gr. 'D'	06	
5.	Assistant Director(Urdu)	01	An Urdu cell has been created in this Ministry with one post each of (i)Assistant Director (Urdu), ii)Sr. Translator (Urdu) and iii)Typist (Urdu) .
6.	Senior Translator (Urdu)	01	<p>Advertisement inviting applications for filling up of above posts on an adhoc deputation basis, was published in the Employment News (English, Hindi & Urdu edition) dated 18-24 July, 2009 for the applicants working in Government/PSUs/Govt. Autonomous Bodies.</p>
7.	Typist (Urdu)	01	

			While 03 applications were received for the post of Asstt. Director (Urdu) from officers working in Government/Autonomous Bodies, applicants for Senior Translator/Typist were not working in Government. Therefore, their candidatures stand cancelled. Regarding appointing Assistant Director (Urdu), the matter is under process and will be finalized shortly.
8.	Assistant	01	Ministry of HRD has been requested to fill up the post .
9.	Senior Research Investigator	01	At present, the Ministry has 04 sanctioned posts of Sr. Research Investigator and 04 posts of Sr. Investigator.
10.	Senior Investigator	03	In order to fill up the vacancies, the Ministry had issued vacancy circular for filling up these posts on deputation basis. An advertisement was also published in the Employment News dated 23-29 May, 2009 besides posting the vacancy circular on the Ministry's website. The Ministry received only one eligible application in response to the advertisement. One post of Senior Investigator has thus been filled up in December, 2009. Ministry's efforts to en-cadre the above posts with either subordinate Statistical Service Cadre or subordinate Economic Service Cadre could not materialize. The Ministry again proposes to advertise the above vacant posts shortly.
11.	Peons	04	In pursuance of Sixth Pay Commission's Report regarding ban on further recruitment in Group D posts, the Ministry has engaged 04 persons against vacant position of 04 Peons through outsourcing.

(Ministry of Minority Affairs O.M. No.G-20011/2/2009-10-Budget dated April 9, 2010)

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para 1.7 of Chapter – I of the Report)

Recommendations (Sl. No. 10, Para No. 5.16)

4.3 The Committee further note that the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Literacy awards which was introduced in 2003-04 is being given to institutes who are doing considerable work to promote education amongst educationally backward minorities. The Committee observe that upto the year 2005, the award used to be given regularly. However, in the year 2006 three institutions have been selected but haven't been conferred the award as yet. Moreover, from the year 2006 onwards this award has not been sanctioned to any institution for reasons not known to the Committee. Since the award is a way of recognizing the work/efforts of institutions in the field of promoting education among the minorities and encouraging more and more institutions to come forward and work for the cause of development of minorities, the discontinuation of this award is not at all advisable. Therefore, the Committee recommend that the Ministry should look into the matter urgently for identifying and sorting out the problems/hurdles being faced in this regard and all necessary steps should be taken for resuming the conferment of this award as early as possible.

Reply of the Government

4.4 The scheme of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Literacy Award is given to institutions, those who have done commendable work to promote education amongst educationally backward minorities. This award was discontinued from the year 2005-06 due to poor response given to the scheme by Vice-chancellors, and people's representatives to whom request had been made to recommend institutions for this award.

Perforce there arises a need to review the existing procedure in respect of this scheme. Accordingly, the Ministry has advised the MAEF to devise certain parameters, on the basis of which the eligibility of an advised /or individual for consideration for this award, can be decided. The MAEF in consultation with its Governing Body is working on the need of a better mechanism to make this scheme effective and purposeful.

(Ministry of Minority Affairs O.M. No.G-20011/2/2009-10-Budget dated April 9, 2010)

Comments of the Committee

(Please see Para 1.10 of Chapter – I of the Report)

CHAPTER – V

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT ARE INTERIM IN NATURE

Recommendations (Sl. No. 6, Para No. 4.18)

5.1 The Committee are also unhappy to note non receipt of adequate number of complete proposals from the UTs and North Eastern States for Multi-sectoral Development Programme. According to the Ministry out of 90 MCDs, 30 MCDs are located in the North Eastern States and 2 MCDs are located in UTs. While the Committee can well understand that the remotest States of Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Mizoram did not submit their district plans, the Committee fail to understand as to why the States like Delhi and Jammu & Kashmir which constitute substantial minority population and are eager to implement some sort of schemes for minorities have not submitted their district plans. This merely reflects lack of action and initiative on the part of the Ministry in persuading and guiding these States in preparation of plans for their districts. The Committee desire that being the nodal agency in the Government of India to look after the needs of the minority population, the Ministry have to constantly monitor the progress, guide and persuade these States. The Chief Ministers and the Chief Secretaries of these States should be briefed in the right earnest about the urgent need for formulation and approval of the district plans without much delay so that the minority population in these States are not deprived of availing benefits of the scheme for long.

Reply of the Government

5.2 In the Chief Secretaries Conference held in February, 2010 the States/UT which had not submitted the district plans of their MCD were advised to submit their plans. The matter has also been taken up at the level of Chief Secretaries and Chief Ministers of the State Governments. These efforts are in addition to the follow-up action with the Principal Secretaries/Secretaries of minority welfare, workshops held with the district officers in the

States/UTs and review meetings in the Ministry. All district plans have been received except for seven districts of Arunachal Pradesh and two of Assam. District plans of Leh (Jammu & Kashmir), Mamit and Lawngtlai (Mizoram), Bhopal (Madhya Pradesh), North East Delhi (Delhi), Ranchi (Jharkhand) have been approved. North Sikkim district plan could not be taken up as the State and district officials from Sikkim did not attend the Empowered Committee meeting. District plans of Arunachal Pradesh and Assam are still awaited. The state governments are regularly being approached to expedite the district plans.

(Ministry of Minority Affairs O.M. No.G-20011/2/2009-10-Budget dated April 9, 2010)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 18, Para No. 9.9)

5.3 The Committee find that the Scheme of Leadership Development of Minority Women which has been transferred from Ministry of Women & Child Development is being examined afresh in the Ministry of Minority Affairs and details of the scheme are being formulated/worked out. The Committee note that the scheme is true to the letter and spirit of the observation of the Sachar Committee which had highlighted that India's biggest minority group, the muslim numbering 13.83 crore having been left out of the development trajectory need to be uplifted and within this group muslim women being doubly disadvantaged need to be empowered urgently. Keeping in view the likely pivotal role to be played by such a scheme to ensure that the benefits of growth reach these deprived women, the Committee hope that the scheme would be implemented soon and adequate budgetary allocation would be made under the scheme. The Committee also desire that until the new scheme is made fully operational, the Ministry of Women & Child Development should be advised to continue the existing scheme by ensuring adequate funds for the benefit of deprived women of the minority community.

Reply of the Government

5.4 With a view to improve the status of women in the country, the Ministry of Women & Child Development in consultation with National Commission for Women launched a scheme of Leadership Development of Minority Women. The scheme has been transferred by the Planning Commission from Ministry of WCD to Ministry of Minority Affairs in 2009-10. A provision of Rs. 8 crore was made for 2009-10 in the budget of this Ministry.

The scheme had been suitably recast in consultation with various Ministries /Departments including the Planning Commission and was formally launched on 27.1.2010. Advertisements inviting Expression of Interests (EOIs) were issued in March, 2010 and after receipt of proposals, suitable organizations would be shortlisted to implement the scheme. Eligible organizations shortlisted by the Ministry would submit projects for consideration and approval by the Ministry. The scheme envisages imparting Leadership development training in the village/locality and in residential training institutes covering a total of 56850 women during 2010-11. Financial assistance would be given to organizations for implementing the scheme.

(Ministry of Minority Affairs O.M. No.G-20011/2/2009-10-Budget dated April 9, 2010)

NEW DELHI
8 July, 2010
17 Asadha, 1932 (Saka)

DARA SINGH CHAUHAN
Chairman
Standing Committee on
Social Justice and Empowerment.

MINUTES OF THE THIRTEENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT HELD ON THURSDAY, 8th JULY, 2010.

The Committee met from 1430 hrs. to 1620 hrs. in Committee Room 'D' Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN - CHAIRMAN

**MEMBERS
LOK SABHA**

2. Shri T.R. Baalu
3. Shri E.T. Mohamed Basheer
4. Shri Bhudeo Choudhary
5. Shri R. Dhruvanarayana
6. Shri Premchand Guddu
7. Shri Baliram Jadhav
8. Dr. Manda Jagannath
9. Shri Mohan Jena
10. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya

**MEMBERS
RAJYA SABHA**

11. Smt. Jharna Das Baidya

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Shri A. Mukhophadyay | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Smt. Anita Jain | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri Sanjeev Kumar Mishra | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 4. | Dr.(Smt.) Sagarika Dash | - | Under Secretary |

2. At the outset, Hon'ble Chairman welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee.

3. The Committee then considered and adopted the following two draft Reports without any amendment :-

(i) Seventh Report on Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Third Report on Demands for Grants (2009-10) of the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

(ii) *****

The Committee authorized the Chairman to finalize these draft Reports and present the same to both Houses of Parliament.

4. *****

5. *****

6. *****

7. *****

8. *****

9. *****

The Committee then adjourned.

APPENDIX

ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE THIRD REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

	Total	Percentage
I. Total number of Recommendations	18	
II. Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government: (Paragraph Nos. 1.5, 3.20, 3.21, 4.17, 4.19, 5.14, 5.15, 6.10, 6.11, 7.14, 8.17, 8.18, 9.7 and 9.8)	14	77.78%
III. Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government:	Nil	0%
IV. Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted and have been commented upon by the Committee in Chapter I (Paragraph Nos. 2.12 and 5.16)	2	11.11%
V. Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature: (Paragraph Nos. 4.18 and 9.9)	2	11.11%