

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3654

ANSWERED ON:13.02.2014

KHIDMAT HELPLINE

Chitthan Shri N.S.V.;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Ganeshamurthi Shri A.

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government has launched a toll free "Khidmat" helpline to provide information about the welfare programmes for minorities recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of persons benefited so far by this helpline, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government for the welfare of minority communities?

Answer

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

(a)& (b): Yes, Madam. The Toll free Phone Line 1800-11-2001 named KHIDMAT is functioning from the Office of Ministry of Minority Affairs situated at 11th Floor, Paryavaran Bhawan, C.G.O Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003 for providing information about the Schemes/ Programmes being implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

(c): Since launching of the toll free Khidmat Helpline on 8th August, 2013, about 12263 number of calls received from all the States/UTs have been attended.

(d): The Ministry of Minority Affairs is running many schemes and programmes such as Pre-Matric Scholarship, Post-Matric Scholarship, Merit Cum Means- based Scholarship, Maulana Azad National Fellowship, Nai Roshni for Leadership Development of Minority women, Sikho Aur Kamao (Learn & Earn) , Multi Sectoral Development Programme(MsDP), Prime Minister's New 15 Points Programmes. The Ministry is also running schemes for institutional strengthening of the State/UT Waqf Boards through computerization of records of State Waqf Boards and scheme for development of urban Waqf Properties. The Ministry has recently launched the National Waqf Development Corporation Limited (NAWADCO) on 31/12/2013 which has been established under the Companies Act 1956. Besides all these schemes and programmes, the central government has launched two more schemes namely 'Padho Pradesh' for interest subsidy on educational loans for overseas studies for minority students and Jiyo Parsi to control the declining trend of Parsi population.