

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:395
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2015
EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN
Patel Shri Dilip

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any action plan for the employment of women belonging to minority communities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received any recommendations from the National Commission for Women in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)

(a) & (b): Ministry of Minority Affairs implements "SeekhoaurKamao (Learn & Earn)", a placement linked skill development training programme for minorities. Minimum 33% seats are earmarked for minority girl/ women candidates under this scheme. The scheme aims at upgrading the skills of minority youths in various modern/traditional skills depending upon their qualification, present economic trends and market potential, which can earn them a suitable employment or make them suitably skilled to go for self-employment.

Further, the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC), a CPSE under Ministry of Minority Affairs, provides concessional loans to notified minorities through the State Channelizing Agencies of NMDFC, for self-employment and income generating activities. Women are given preference under all its schemes. The Micro-finance scheme mainly focuses on extending concessional credit to women beneficiaries. Under this scheme, maximum loan of upto Rs.1.00 lakhs per member of a Self Help group (SHG) is provided at an interest rate of 7% per annum to women beneficiaries with annual family income of Rs.81,000/- in Rural areas and Rs.1.03 lakhs in Urban areas. For beneficiaries with higher annual family income of upto Rs.6.00 lakhs, higher quantum of loan of upto Rs.1.50 lakhs per SHG member is provided at an interest rate of 8% per annum.

NMDFC also implements another women specific scheme called "MahilaSamridhiYojana", under which training is given to women in a suitable activity such as tailoring, cutting and embroidery etc. for a period of 6 months. The group is formed into SHG during the training and need based micro-credit is provided to the members of the SHG after the training for setting up their ventures. During the training, a stipend of Rs. 1000/- per month is also paid to the each trainee.

(c): Ministry of Minority Affairs has not received any recommendation from the National Commission for Women in this regard.

(d) & (e): Does not arise.