

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINORITY AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:803  
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2014  
SCHEMES FOR MINORITIES  
Pal Shri Jagdambika

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

- (a) whether the Government has launched any schemes for the welfare and development of Buddhist and Jains minorities in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a), (b) This Ministry is implementing various schemes for the welfare and development of the six notified minorities in the country which includes the Buddhist and Jains minorities also. The details of the welfare schemes are as follows.

1. Multi Sectoral Development Programme (MsDP): - This is an area development scheme which aims to improve the quality of life of the people and reduce imbalances in the Minority Concentration Districts (MCDs). Identified development deficits are addressed through a district specific plan with provision of infrastructure creation for schools, sanitation, pucca housing, drinking water and electricity supply, besides beneficiary oriented schemes. The focus of this programme is on rural and semi-rural areas of the identified 90 Minority Concentration Districts. The scheme has been restructured for implementation during 12th Five Year Plan. Block has been made the unit of planning in place of district, the programme has been expanded to minority concentration towns/cities and cluster of minority concentration villages. The restructured programme covers 710 Minority Concentration Blocks (MCBs) & 66 Minority Concentration Towns (MCTs) covering 196 districts of 26 States in the country.

2. Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme:- Under this Scheme, scholarships are awarded to minority students up to class X, who have secured not less than 50% marks in the previous final examination and the annual income of their parents/ guardian from all sources does not exceed Rs. 1.00 lakh. 30% of the scholarships are earmarked for girl students

3. Post-matric Scholarship Scheme:- Under this Scheme, scholarships are awarded to minority students from class XI onwards who have secured not less than 50% marks or equivalent grade in the previous final examination and the annual income of whose parents/ guardian from all sources does not exceed Rs.2.00 lakh. 30% of the scholarships are earmarked for girl students.

4. Maulana Azad National Fellowship For Minority Students:- The objective of the Fellowship is to provide integrated five year fellowships in the form of financial assistance to minority students to pursue higher studies such as M.Phil and Ph.D. The Fellowship covers all Universities/Institutions recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC). 30% of the Scholarships are earmarked for the girl students.

5. Merit-cum Means based Scholarship: - The Merit-cum means based Scholarship Scheme provides financial assistance to the poor and meritorious minority students pursuing professional studies at graduate and post-graduate levels. 30% of the scholarships are earmarked for girl students.

6. Free Coaching and Allied Scheme: - Under this scheme, candidates belonging to the minority community are provided financial assistance for coaching in Government and the private sector institutes for imparting coaching/training for Competitive Exams, Information Technology and other employment oriented courses. 30% of the scholarships are earmarked for girl students.

7. National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC):- Government contributes equity capital to NMDFC for implementation of its schemes at concessional rates of interest which are viz. micro financing scheme, term loan, educational loans, skill development and Mahila SamridhiYojana etc.

8. Grant-in-aid to Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF):- Grants-in-aid are released to MAEF towards its Corpus Fund. MAEF provides Grant-in-aid to the minority institutions for infrastructure development and distribution of scholarships to the minority girl students studying in classes XI and XII. The expenditure on these schemes is met out of the interest earned on the Corpus Fund.

9. NaiRoshni:- A scheme for Leadership Development of Minority Women has been launched from 2012-13 with the objective to

empower and instill confidence in women, by providing knowledge, tools and techniques to interact with Government systems, banks, and inter- mediate at all levels so that they are emboldened to move out of the confines of home and assume leadership roles. The scheme is implemented through Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs).

10. Seekho Aur Kamao:- The Ministry has launched "Seekho Aur Kamao (Learn and Earn)" a new 100% Central Sector Scheme for Skill Development of minorities in September 2013. The scheme is implemented by private professional skill development organizations/companies. The scheme ensures employment of minimum 75% trained candidates, and out of them 50% in organized sector. The scheme reserves minimum 33% seats for minority women.

11. "Nalanda Project" is a Pilot Project for Development of Faculties of Minority Universities/ Minority Managed Degree Colleges (MMDCs) and higher educational institutions located in minority concentra- tion areas, launched on 3rd March 2014 at Aligarh Muslim University, the Nodal Staff College of University Grants Commission.

12. "Minority Cyber Gram" was launched for Digital literacy of Minorities in collaboration with Digital Empowerment Foundation in PPP Mode at village Chandauli, District Alwar, Rajasthan on 19.02.2014. Total 2,600 villagers have been targeted under this pilot project.

13. Support for Minority students clearing Prelims conducted by Union Public Service Commissions, Staff Selection Commission, State Public Service Commissions. The objective of the scheme is to provide financial support to the minority candidates clearing prelims conducted by Union Public Service Commissions, Staff Selection Commission, State Public Service Commissions to adequately equip them to compete for appointment to Civil Services in the Union and the State Governments and to increase the repre- sentation of the minorities in the Civil Services by giving direct financial support to candidates clearing Preliminary Examination. There is no State/UT wise allocation under this scheme. This scheme was launched in 2013-14, an amount of Rs. 95.25 lakh have been released to award Financial Assistance to 274 candidates under this Scheme in the current year.

14. Further Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for Welfare of Minorities is an overarching programme which covers various schemes of concerned Ministries/Departments either by earmarki- ng 15% of physical targets/financial outlays for the minorities or by specific monitoring of flow of benefits/funds to areas with substantial minority population. Presently 24 Schemes implemented by 11 Ministries/ departments including 7 Schemes of Ministry of Minority Affairs, are covered under this programme.

(c) Does not arise.