

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1717

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2014

EDUCATIONAL BACKWARDNESS OF MUSLIMS

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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has not been able to alleviate the educational backwardness of muslims and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the present literacy rate of muslims as compared to national average, gender-wise/ State-wise and the percentage of growth during the last three years, State-wise;
- (c) whether the schemes for educational development of muslims have not been implemented satisfactorily; and
- (d) if so, the details of the steps taken by the Government to remove educational backwardness of muslims?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) : No, Madam. Education of students including those from the Muslim minority community is a continuous process and the Government is committed to enhance the participation of Muslim minorities in education. The Government has a two-fold approach in the matter in which priority is given to minority concentration districts in central schemes like Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Rashtriya Madyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, the Mid-Day Meal Scheme, Teacher Education Scheme, Adult Literacy, the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme (JNV), setting up of Girls Hostels, Model Schools Scheme, establishment of the Model Degree Colleges, Women Hostels and Polytechnics, etc., in order to promote participation of minorities at all levels of education. At the same time, schemes for madarsa modernization, infrastructure development of minority schools, scholarships for minority students to pursue school and college education and open schooling initiatives, are specially targeted to benefit minority students and minority institutions.

The Ministry of HRD has been running two schemes namely i) the Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madarasas (SPQEM) and ii) Scheme for Infrastructure Development in Private Aided/Unaided Minority Institutes (IDMI) since 2008-09 for the educational upliftment of the Muslim Community. Under SPQEM, financial assistance is provided to the Madarasas which introduce modern subjects i.e. science, mathematics, social studies, Hindi and English in their curriculum so that academic proficiency for classes I-XII is attainable for children studying in these institutions. Financial assistance is provided for Science/ math Kits, for setting up of Book Bank, Science/Computer lab also. However, the scheme is implemented through the State Governments. An amount of Rs.100.00 crore for modernization of madarasas has been additionally provided to the Department of School Education, Government of India, during the year 2014-15. Under IDMI, financial assistance is provided to augment infrastructure in private aided/unaided minority schools/ institutions in order to enhance quality of education to minority children. However, under the scheme, only those madarasas which are imparting formal education and thereby following the prescribed syllabus of the State Education Board are covered under the scheme. The scheme of IDMI is also implemented through the State Government.

(b): The literacy rate for Muslim community is 59.1 whereas the national literacy rate is 64.8 as per the Census of India 2001.

(c) and (d): In view (a) and (b) above, the questions do not arise.