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Title: Need to place action taken report by the Government on the recommendations made by the National Commission for Religion and Linguistic Minorities headed by Justice Ranganath Mishra.

SK. SAIDUL HAQUE (BARDHMAN-DURGAPUR): Sir, the Ranganath Mishra Commission submitted its Report to the Government on 10th May, 2007 and the Government tabled it in December 2009, two and a half years after its submission, surprisingly without any action taken report.

The Ranganath Mishra Commission made recommendations for all religious minorities. According to the Commission, the minorities, especially the Muslims, are very much under-represented and sometimes wholly unrepresented in Government employment. So, that Commission recommended to regard the Muslims as backward and also recommended 15 per cent reservation for the backward minorities and particularly earmarking 10 per cent for Muslims and five per cent for other minorities. On the basis of that, the then Left Front Government in West Bengal had made 10 per cent reservation for the Muslims in the Government jobs. But now what the Union Government has done is that they have given only 4.5 per cent reservation for the Muslims. This is nothing but a gimmick. It shows that this Government has no political will for the upliftment of the Muslim community. So, this Government should implement the recommendation of 10 per cent reservation for socially and educationally backward Muslims without any delay and extend the SC status to that kinds of Muslims and Christians who deserve to come into that category as per the commission's recommendation. It should be irrespective of any religion. In order to implement that without disturbing the present quota fixed for OBCs and Scheduled Castes, additional allocation should be made from the open quota. Since the Supreme Court has ruled that the quota for reservation should not be increased beyond 50 per cent, an amendment to the Constitution would be necessary to provide reservation above 50 per cent.

Hence I urge upon the Union Government to initiate the process for this Constitutional amendment.