

(c) the time likely to be taken to appoint the Deputy Chairman of ...
National Commission for Minorities?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A. R. ANTULAY):
(a) to (c) Shri Michael P. Pinto assumed the office of the Vice-Chairman of the
National Commission for Minorities on 17th July, 2006.

Proposal for reservation to minorities

†2027. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI: Will the Minister of
MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to give reservation to minorities is under
consideration;

(b) if so, by when and the percentage thereof and the names of the
departments wherein it is proposed to be given;

(c) if not, the steps being taken by Government for educational and
economic development of minorities; and

(d) the details of the outcome of official declaration regarding 20 per
cent reservation to minorities in para-military forces?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY):
(a) to (c) There is no such proposal for reservation for minorities. Government
have constituted the National Commission for Religious and Linguistic Minorities
to suggest *inter-alia* criteria for identification of socially and economically
backward sections among religious and linguistic minorities, and to
recommend measures for welfare of socially and economically backward
sections among religious and linguistic minorities, including reservation in
education and government employment. Government have recently announced
the Prime Minister's New 15-Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities
which provides for enhancing opportunities for education, equitable share in
economic activities, improving the conditions of living of the minorities,
equitable share for minorities in government employment including public
sector, and prevention and control of communal riots.

(d) There is no such official declaration.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.