

(a) the number of minority students who have been provided scholarships in Assam during 2010-11; and

(b) the details of scholarships provided for pre-matric, post-matric and higher education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) and (b) The total number of minority students who have been provided scholarships in Assam during 2010-11 are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the Scholarship/ Fellowship Scheme	No. of beneficiaries
1	Pre-matric Scholarship	38259
2	Post-matric Scholarship	4730
3	Merit-cum-means based Scholarship	1908
4	Maulana Azad National Fellowship	67
TOTAL		44964

Further details of scholarships provided for Pre-matric, Post-matric and Merit-cum-means are also available on the website of this Ministry i.e. www.minorityaffairs.gov.in.

Schemes for minorities

2408. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of minority people living below poverty line, on the basis of new Plan Panel's description of poor in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of schemes being implemented for the minorities; and

(c) the steps being taken to streamline the system and to ensure that the benefits reach the minorities in full measure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) The Planning Commission estimates number and

proportion of persons living below the poverty line (BPL) at national and state level using the data from Large Sample Surveys on Household Consumer Expenditure carried out by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). From NSSO's 66th round data of Household Consumer Expenditure Survey conducted during 2009-10, percentage of Muslim people living below all India poverty line is estimated at 36.2% in rural areas and 33.9% in urban areas as against 11.9% and 14.5% for Sikhs, 23.8% and 12.9% for Christians and 33.8% and 20.9% for all population in rural and urban areas respectively. However, the sample size for minorities other than Muslims is too small for drawing any meaningful comparison among them.

The Ministry of Rural Development, through the Socio-Economic and Caste Census (SECC) has commenced a door-to-door census in rural and urban areas of the country in June, 2011 to gather household level data for identification of BPL households in all States. The SECC is continuing.

(b) The Ministry of Minority Affairs is implementing the following Schemes exclusively for the five notified minority communities:

- (i) Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme.
- (ii) Post-matric Scholarship Scheme.
- (iii) Merit-cum-means based Scholarship Scheme.
- (iv) Free Coaching & Allied Scheme.
- (v) Equity contribution to National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation for enhancing credit to the minorities.
- (vi) Grant in aid to Maulana Azad Education Foundation for minority welfare activities.
- (vii) Computerization of records of State Wakf Boards.
- (viii) Multi-sectoral Development Programme.

(c) The following steps are being taken to streamline the system and to ensure better delivery of benefits for the welfare of minorities:

- (i) Educational Empowerment, Area Development, Economic Empowerment and Strengthening of Minority Institutions have been adopted as the four pronged strategy for the development of minority communities in the country, during the 12th Five Year Plan.
- (ii) In order to make the Schemes / Programmes for minority welfare more effective and focused, a Working Group was constituted on 'Empowerment of Minorities' for formulation of 12th Five Year Plan which has made various recommendations. These include making the Scholarship Schemes Demand Driven,' blocks' to be the unit of planning for area development, to expand the basket of schemes included in the PM's New 15 Point Programme, to introduce social audit for all minority welfare schemes, *etc.*
- (iii) In order to streamline the scholarship schemes, the Ministry of Minority Affairs has introduced the Online Scholarship Management System (OSMS) for Merit-cum-means based Scholarship Scheme in 2011-12 and for Post-matric Scholarship Scheme in 2012-13.
- (iv) Quarterly review is conducted by the Ministry of Minority Affairs with the Nodal Officers of concerned Ministries/Departments. Ministry of Minority Affairs also reviews the progress under this Programme with States/UTs. Further, the progress is reviewed by the Committee of Secretaries (CoS) on half yearly basis and then reported to the Cabinet.
- (v) Meetings and conferences of Principal Secretaries / Secretaries of State /UT Governments are held to review the implementation of Schemes of the Ministry.

Illegal encroachment of Wakf lands

†2409. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware that many Wakf Boards in the country

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.