

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI NINONG ERING): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. To ensure a focused approach towards issues relating to the minorities including Muslims and to enable them to access the benefits of the development programmes, the Ministry of Minority Affairs has adopted a multi-pronged strategy for development of minority communities with focus on educational empowerment, area development, economic empowerment, and strengthening of minority institutions. During Eleventh Five Year Plan, the Ministry implemented Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme and Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) for development of infrastructure and basic amenities for minorities, scholarship schemes for educational empowerment, lending schemes at concessional interest rates for economic empowerment, and schemes for strengthening of State Wakf Boards and development of Wakf properties. During Eleventh Five Year Plan, Rs.6817.37 Crore were spent for development and welfare of minorities.

During Twelfth Five Year Plan, expansion of Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme is high on agenda. MsDP has been restructured for sharper focus on minority concentration areas, and extending the benefit of this programme to 710 blocks, 66 towns/cities and clusters of villages. Ministry intends to make all scholarships schemes online and demand driven with simplified procedure. The implementation of scheme for "Leadership Development of Minority Women" has been started for women empowerment. A new scheme for Skill Development of Minorities has been formulated. Action has been initiated for restructuring of National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) to bring about more efficiency and effectiveness in its lending operations and to allow it to cover greater number of beneficiaries. Social Audit and concurrent monitoring of Area Development schemes/programmes has also been envisaged during Twelfth Plan. For the Twelfth Five Year Plan, Planning Commission has allocated Rs. 17,323 Crore as Gross budgetary Support.

Inclusion of Siddi community of Gujarat in minority list

3664. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR:

SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA:

SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the Central Government is including Siddi community of Gujarat in the list of minority communities;

(b) whether the Central Government intends to amend the existing laws in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and if so, by when the Siddi community should be included as a minority community?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI NINONG ERING): (a) to (c) As per Section 2 (c) of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992, the following communities have been notified as minority communities:

- (i) Muslims
- (ii) Christians
- (iii) Sikhs
- (iv) Buddhists, and,
- (v) Zoroastrians (Parsis)

There is no proposal for inclusion of the Siddi community of Gujarat in the list of Minority Communities under consideration of the Government.

Discrimination against minorities

3665. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints of discrimination received by Government against the minorities for providing employment, housing facility, education to their children and loans during the last two years, State/Union Territory-wise;

(b) the details of actions taken by Government against such complaints during that period State/Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether Government has formulated any guidelines for redressal of complaints against minorities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI NINONG ERING): (a) The number of Complaints received by the National Commission of Minorities (NCM) against various categories, during the last two years, State/Union Territory-wise is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) The details of action taken by NCM against such Complaints during the last 2 years State/Union Territory-wise is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) to (e) A copy of the Guidelines formulated by NCM for redressal of complaints is given in the Statement-III.