

Further, DoPT has issued guidelines to all appointing authorities for giving special consideration to minorities in recruitment and has also issued instructions to all appointing authorities to scrupulously observe *inter alia*, the following guidelines:

- (i) The composition of Selection Committees should be representative. It should be mandatory to have *inter alia*, one member belonging to minority community in Selection Boards/ Committees for making recruitment to 10 or more vacancies.
- (ii) In selection process of less than 10 vacancies, efforts should be made to have a Minority community officer included in such Committees / Boards.
- (iii) Wide publicity should be given to all appointments in Government, public sector banks and financial institutions, and
- (iv) Where there is concentration of minority community population in local areas, the vacancy circular in local language may be distributed in those areas by suitable arrangements.

#### **Modernisation of madarsas**

959. SHRI AVINASH PANDE : Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to constitute a committee or any other body or mechanism for holding consultations with religious and community leaders and students before formulating a policy or action plan for the modernization of Madarsas:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI) : (a) to (c) The Ministry of Human Resource Development, which is mandated to deal with modernization of Madarsas has constituted the National Consultative Committee under the Chairmanship of the Minister of Human Resource Development for implementation of the Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madarsas (SPQEM). SPQEM focuses on bringing about qualitative improvement in Madarsas, by introduction of modern subjects like Science, Mathematics, Social Sciences etc. and with linkages for certification through the National Institute for Open Schooling

(NIOS) under the Scheme. In a similar fashion, vocational training is also supported in Madaras through NIOS under the Scheme. The Scheme envisages *inter-alia*, support for Madaras who opt for the Scheme, for teachers in modern subjects, training laboratories and vocation etc.

#### **Self-employment among minorities**

960. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA : Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to promote entrepreneurship and self employment among minorities during the last year;

(b) the steps taken by Government to enable minority entrepreneurs to receive hassle-free loans; and

(c) the future strategy chalked out by Government for the development of minority communities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI) : (a) In order to promote entrepreneurship and self-employment among backward sections of minority communities, National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC), a Central Public Sector Enterprise under this Ministry, provides concessional loans through State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs) nominated by respective State Governments/UT Administrations. During 2014, to expand the outreach, NMDFC has raised the eligibility criteria for annual family income upto ₹ 6.00 lakhs. During 2013-14, NMDFC has disbursed concessional loans amounting to ₹ 325.46 crore for 75,966 beneficiaries and in 2014-15 (upto 31.01.2015) ₹ 293.70 crore for 60,700 beneficiaries.

Further, Ministry of Minority Affairs has also launched a scheme "*Seekho aur Kamao* (Learn & Earn)" for skill development of minority youths in 2013-14. The schemes ensures minimum 75% placement of trained youths and out of this, 50% in organized sector. In addition, the scheme promotes self-employment through Self Help Group formation under traditional trades. During 2013-14, Ministry has sanctioned training of 20,164 minority youths with an amount of ₹ 17.00 crore. During current year upto 31.01.2015, the trainings of 16,270 minority youths have been sanctioned with ₹ 35.28 crore.