

4. Mahila Samridhi Yojana:- Skill development training is imparted to group of women in women friendly trades. Training period is of maximum 6 months with training and raw material cost of upto ₹ 1,5001- per women and stipend @ ₹ 1,0001- per women. During the period of training, the women are formed into Self Help Group, followed by infusion of micro-credit maximum upto ₹ 1.00 lacs per member for the purpose of using the skill developed during the training, for income generation activities.

(b) Promotional Schemes:

1. Vocational Training Scheme: The Vocational Training Scheme of NMDFC aims at imparting skills to the targeted individual beneficiaries leading to wage/self employment. The scheme is implemented through the State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs) which organize need based skill development training with the help of local Government owned/recognized training institutes in trades having potential wage/self employment. Under the scheme, the training institutes/implementing agencies are being assisted to ensure employment of at least 80% trainees with at least 50% in the organized sector.
2. Marketing Assistance Scheme: The Marketing Assistance Scheme is meant for individual crafts persons, beneficiaries of NMDFC as well as SHGs and is implemented mainly through the SCAs. The scheme envisages promoting sale and marketing of their products at remunerative prices through participation/organizing exhibitions at State/District level.

An amount of ₹ 293.70 crore has been released by NMDFC for 60,700 beneficiaries during the current financial year 2014-15 (upto 31.1.2015). Since its inception, NMDFC has released an amount of ₹ 2883.13 Crore to 10.42 lakhs beneficiaries. For 2014-15, the target of NMDFC is ₹ 400 crore to 97,000 beneficiaries.

**Development of minorities**

†160. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN : Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has chalked out any plan for the development of minorities; and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the extent of funds released so far?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) Yes, Sir. The focus of the Government is to improve the educational and skill level of minority communities for their gainful employment leading to improvement in the overall condition of minorities. For welfare of minority communities, Ministry of Minority Affairs implements following programmes/schemes:

- (i) **Schemes for educational empowerment:** Ministry implements Pre-matric, Post-matric, Merit-cum-Means based scholarships and Maulana Azad National Fellowship. Under these schemes, 30% seats are earmarked for girl students. In addition, Maulana Azad Education Foundation implements a scheme exclusively for scholarship to girls belonging to minority communities. Assistance for free coaching is also provided to students for competitive examinations. A new scheme 'Padho Pardesh' has been launched for Interest subsidy on educational loans for minority students for their overseas studies. Another Scheme 'Nai Udaan' has also been started for giving financial support to minority candidates clearing preliminary exams conducted by Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), Staff Selection Commission (SSC) and State Public Service Commissions (SPSCs). Further, to strengthen educational infrastructure, construction of school, additional classrooms and toilets are taken up under Multi-sectoral Development Programme.
- (ii) **Scheme for economic empowerment :** National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) provides for concessional loans to minorities. Ministry has also launched "Seekho aur Kamao (Learn & Earn)" for placement linked skill development of minorities in the year 2013-14. The scheme envisages a minimum of 75% employment of trained minority youth and out of them 50% in organized sector. A new Scheme 'Upgradation of Skills & Training in Traditional Arts/ Crafts for Development (USTTAD)' has also been approved for implementation. The scheme aims at capacity-building of minority artists and craftsmen including lesser known artists! craftsmen.
- (iii) **Scheme for area development :** Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) launched in 2008-09, is the flagship programme of the Ministry to address the development deficits by creating socio-economic infrastructure and providing basic amenities in identified minority concentration areas. Digital literacy under Cybergram as one of the components of the scheme is also being implemented.

- (iv) **Scheme for Women empowerment** : Ministry started "Nai Roshni", an exclusive Leadership Development Programme for Minority Women during 2012-13. The scheme aims to empower and instill confidence among minority women by providing knowledge, tools and techniques for interacting with Government systems, Banks and other institutions.
- (v) **Development of vulnerable minority community** : Ministry has launched a scheme with the name "Jiyo Parsi" during 2013-14 for containing population decline of Parsis in India. The scheme provides financial assistance to Parsi married couples for medical treatment under standard medical protocols and also focuses on advocacy! outreach programmes to generate awareness among Parsi population for lineage enhancement.

Besides the programmes! schemes of Ministry of Minority Affairs, the Government has taken various steps to improve socio-economic and educational status of minority communities in the country through Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities', which is an overarching programme covering various schemes! initiatives of different Ministries! Departments such as Sarva Siksha Abhiyan, Integrated Child Development Services, Indira Awas Yojana, Aajeevika! National Rural Livelihoods Mission, Swarn Jyanti Sahari Rojgar Yojana! National Urban Livelihoods Mission, Priority Sector Lending, Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission (JnNURM), etc. by either earmarking 15% of physical targets! financial outlays for the minorities or specific monitoring of flow of benefits! funds to areas with substantial minority population.

(b) Under the Plan Schemes of Ministry of Minority Affairs ₹ 2722.67 crore (provisional upto 31.01.2015) has been incurred so far during the current year 2014-15.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over. The House is adjourned till 2.00 p.m.

*The House then adjourned for lunch at one of the clock.*

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*The House reassembled after lunch at two of the clock,*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Supplementary List of Business. ...*(Interruptions)*... Papers to be laid.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय उपसभापति जी, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me finish it. ...*(Interruptions)*...