

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ):

(a) to (c) Prime Minister visited Facebook headquarters on 27 September, 2015 during his official visit to the US. No agreement was signed between India and Facebook Group during this visit.

Facebook and other social media services provide a useful platform to receive feedback and suggestions for better service delivery and improvement in the efficiency of governance. As tools for outreach, these services form a useful interface as well as a dynamic medium of effective communication between the Government, Administrative machinery and the public. The social media also assists in presenting facts to enable informed opinion making. These media platforms have also been used for locating and assisting individual citizens during times of crises, both in India and abroad.

Facebook has around 132 million active users in India, second only to the US. Facebook and other social media services not only provide real time connect between the policy makers and the stakeholders but also are an integral part of expanding the Digital India Programme.

Higher education for minority girls

*200. DR. T. N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of minority girls studying at the university level throughout the country;

(b) the number in State Universities and in Central Universities, State-wise;

(c) the steps taken by Government to promote higher education of girls belonging to minority communities;

(d) whether Government has any proper mechanism to ensure adequate representation of minority communities in educational institutions; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the corrective measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) As per All India Survey on Higher Education, 2013-14 (Provisional), 9,81,727 minority girls are enrolled throughout the country in higher education. The number of minority girls studying in State Universities and in Central Universities, State-wise is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) to (e) The Government is committed to enhance the participation of minority girls in education. In order to promote participation of minorities at all levels of education, priority is given to Minority Concentration Districts (MCDs) in Central Schemes, for instance, Establishment of Model Degree Colleges, Women Hostels and Polytechnics. Under the Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) of the Ministry of Minority Affairs, funds are provided for construction of educational institutions for imparting higher education in identified Minority Concentration Blocks/ Towns. Further, additional class rooms, laboratories and libraries have been sanctioned for Degree Colleges. Besides, the Ministry of Human Resource Development grants scholarship to students belonging to reserved categories/weaker sections including minorities on the basis of merit under the Central Sector Scheme of Scholarship for College and University Students.

The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) gives concessions in setting up new technical institutions under the category of minority institutions to encourage minorities to establish new educational institutions and thus enable easy access to technical education to minority students in the country. AICTE has launched a Scheme titled 'Pragati' in November, 2014 for providing assistance for advancement of girls participation

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has the following schemes for the benefit of minority communities:-

1. Remedial Coaching for SC/ST/OBC (Non-Creamy Layer) and Minority Community Students;
2. Coaching for National Eligibility Test (NET)/State Eligibility Test (SET) for SC/ST/OBC (Non-Creamy Layer) and Minority Community Students;
3. Coaching Classes for entry into services SC/ST/OBC (Non-Creamy Layer) and Minority Community Students;
4. Coaching Classes for Residential for Minorities/SC/ST and Women.

The Ministry of Minority Affairs implements post-matric scholarship schemes for Class XI to Ph.D., Merit-Cum-Means (MCM) scholarships for professional and technical courses for higher education of minorities and provides Maulana Azad National Fellowships to Minority Students pursuing M.Phil/Ph.D in universities/ colleges. Under the 'Padho Pardesh Scheme' of the Ministry of Minority Affairs, interest subsidy on educational loan for overseas studies is provided. In all scholarship/ fellowship schemes of the Ministry of Minority Affairs, a minimum 30% of the seats are earmarked for girls.

Statement*State-wise enrolment for minority females in higher education*

Sl. No.	State	Minority Females
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	149
2.	Andhra Pradesh	19291
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	496
4.	Assam	27085
5.	Bihar	52528
6.	Chandigarh	1148
7.	Chhattisgarh	3743
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	10
9.	Daman and Diu	49
10.	Delhi	8650
11.	Goa	4998
12.	Gujarat	11126
13.	Haryana	8286
14.	Himachal Pradesh	1012
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	66057
16.	Jharkhand	18717
17.	Karnataka	70746
18.	Kerala	103110
19.	Lakshadweep	144
20.	Madhya Pradesh	19573
21.	Maharashtra	61159
22.	Manipur	9570
23.	Meghalaya	9814
24.	Mizoram	5600
25.	Nagaland	6358

Sl. No.	State	Minority Females
26.	Odisha	5104
27.	Puducherry	2753
28.	Punjab	74023
29.	Rajasthan	16040
30.	Sikkim	226
31.	Tamil Nadu	98752
32.	Telangana	50079
33.	Tripura	2468
34.	Uttar Pradesh	130986
35.	Uttarakhand	1774
36.	West Bengal	90103
ALL INDIA		981727

Source: All India Survey on Higher Education, 2013-14 (Provisional).

Increase in juvenile offenders

*201. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in the juvenile offenders in the past three years, the details thereof, State-wise and the number of correctional centres in India, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has taken note of the pathetic condition of such homes and deprivation of basic facilities/infrastructure to children living therein, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the corrective steps being taken/taken by Government to ensure adequate facilities/infrastructure to the children living in juvenile homes; and

(d) the funds allocated/utilized for the same?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI): (a) According to National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Ministry of Home Affairs, the number of juveniles apprehended under Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Special Local Laws (SLL) crimes has increased. In the year