

**Programme for development of minorities**

†2389. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken or proposes to take any steps to prepare a comprehensive programme for educational and economic development of Minorities; and

(b) if so, the details thereof as on date and if not reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) and (b) This Ministry is implementing the following schemes/programmes for educational and economic development of the six notified minority communities namely Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists, Parsis and Jains:—

**Educational Empowerment**

- (a) Pre-matric scholarship,
- (b) Post-matric scholarship,
- (c) Merit-cum-Means scholarship,
- (d) Free Coaching and allied scheme,
- (e) Maulana Azad Education Foundation - Grant-in-aid
- (f) Maulana Azad National Fellowship,
- (g) Padho Pradesh,
- (h) Nai Udaan - Support for minority students clearing prelims conducted by UPSC/SSC/State PSC etc.,
- (i) Nai Roshini
- (j) Corpus Fund to Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF)

**Economic Empowerment**

- (a) Seekho aur Kamao,
- (b) USTTAD
- (c) Nai Manzil

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (d) MANAS
- (e) Concessional credit through National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC)
- (f) Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP)
- (g) Hamari Dharohar
- (h) Waqf Management
  - Scheme for strengthening of State Waqf Boards
  - Computerization of the records of State Waqf Boards scheme
- (i) Equity to NMDFC
- (k) Grant-in-aid scheme to State Channelising Agencies of NMDFC

Apart from the above, this Ministry also monitors Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme, which is being implemented by various other Ministries.

**Board of adjudication to deal with complaints regarding Waqf properties**

2390. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up a board of adjudication to deal with complaints regarding Waqf properties;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken by Government to free the Waqf properties from the clutches of encroachers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) and (b) Waqf Act, 1995 as amended has provision of setting up of a board of adjudication to decide any dispute arising out of a directive issued by Central Waqf Council to the State Waqf Boards under Section 9(4) of Waqf Act. This Ministry has already initiated the process for setting up of the board of adjudication.

(c) The Government of India brought amendments in Waqf Act, 1995 through Waqf Amendment Act, 2013 which came into force w.e.f. 1/11/2013. Major provisions to deal with encroachment issues were added in the Waqf Act, 1995 through the