

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 144
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.11.2021**

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR MINORITIES

144. SHRI RAKESH SINHA:

Will the Minister of **Minority Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Commission for Minorities recommended, since 1980 to 1988, to merge the commission into the National Commission of Human Rights;
- (b) if so, the logic and reasons given by Commission while recommending to make the National Commission for Minorities a part of the Human Rights Commission;
- (c) who were then chairmen of the Commissions (1980 to 1988);
- (d) the reaction and response of the then Central Government;
- (e) whether Government find sense in the recommendations made in 1980s for the merger; and
- (f) whether Government finds rational in the logic to merge the Minority Commission and the Human Rights Commission?

A N S W E R

**MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)**

- (a) to (f): The National Commission for Minorities (NCM) in its Annual Reports for the period 01.01.1981 to 31.03.1982 and 01.04.1982 to 31.03.1983, had recommended for setting up of a Committee to consider the need for considering and, if necessary, to formulate a scheme to establish a National Integration-cum-Human Rights Commission for promotion of secular traditions and national integration. The Government has enacted the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992 to constitute a National Commission for Minorities and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

The Chairmen of NCM between 1980 and 1988 were:-

- (i) Justice M.R.A Ansari (28.07.1978-23.02.1981)
- (ii) Justice M.H. Beg (04.03.1981-31.03.1988)

The functions of NCM broadly include (a) evaluate the progress of the development of minorities under the Union and States; (b) monitor the working of the safeguards provided in the Constitution and in laws enacted by Parliament and the State Legislatures; (c) make recommendations for the effective implementation of safeguards for the protection of the interests of minorities by the Central Government or the State Governments; (d) look into specific complaints regarding deprivation of rights and safeguards of the minorities and take up such matters with the appropriate authorities; (e) cause studies to be undertaken into problems arising out of any discrimination against minorities and recommend measures for their removal; (f) conduct studies, research and analysis on the issues relating to socio-economic and educational development of minorities; (g) suggest appropriate measures in respect of any minority to be undertaken by the Central Government or the State Governments; (h) make periodical or special reports to the Central Government on any matter pertaining to minorities and in particular difficulties confronted by them; and (i) any other matter which may be referred to it by the Central Government. The NCM receives petitions/grievances from the aggrieved persons and the said petitions/grievances being received by Commission are dealt with by calling for reports from the concerned authorities under the Union and State Governments. On receipt of the reports, the Commission makes appropriate recommendations to the respective authorities for redressal of the grievances.
