

National Policy for involvement of voluntary sector

838. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to formulate a national policy to involve the voluntary sector in development efforts;

(b) if so, whether the first meeting of the re-constituted joint machinery for collaborative relationship between Government and the voluntary organizations decided that a draft policy would be prepared and circulated among its members; and

(c) if so, by when the national policy to strengthen voluntary sector would be announced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI NAGMANI): (a) and (b) In the first meeting of the reconstituted Joint Machinery for collaborative relationship between Government and the voluntary organizations, held on the 18th June 2003 it was decided to formulate a national policy to involve the voluntary sector in development efforts. The draft policy would first be circulated to the Members of the joint Machinery and later to other stakeholders.

(c) As the draft national policy to strengthen voluntary sector is under preparation, it is not possible, at this stage, to provide any definite date for its announcement.

Benefits of reservation system

†839. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made by Government with regard to the benefits arising out of the reservation system to the suppressed class suffering from the problem of social justice.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the percentage of people who have so far been benefited from the reservation system; and

(c) the number of people who have been able to live above poverty line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Loan by NMDFC

840. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned to the National Minorities Development and Finance corporation since its inception;

(b) the breakup of the loans sanctioned by the above said corporation, State-wise; and

(c) whether a study has been made to find out minorities especially Muslims who have been benefited as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL): (a) The Government of India has provided Rs. 241.26 crore to National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) since its inception.

(b) The requisite information is given in the enclosed Statement (*See below*).

(c) Yes, Sir, Muslims have benefited largely from the loans sanctioned by the NMDFC. Reports of the State Governments on utilization of funds show that Muslims constitute over 77 per cent of the total beneficiaries financed by National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation. A study on functioning of NMDFC by Indian Social Institute shows that NMDFC's financing has been found to be useful by the beneficiaries in starting/upgrading their income generating activities.