

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 27.11.2009**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**CONFERENCE OF COMMONWEALTH EDUCATION .**

1005

Shri Mohd. Ali Khan

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether Government has represented the 17th Conference of Commonwealth Education;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the views expressed by Government in the Conference; and
- (d) the decisions arrived so far for the minority Muslims, SCs, STs and OBCs?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development, Government of India led a delegation comprising Secretary (School Education & Literacy), Joint Secretary (Distance Learning), Joint Secretary (International Cooperation) and APS to Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development that participated in the 17th Conference of Commonwealth Education Ministers held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 15-18 June 2009. The focus of the conference was to improve access to early childhood care and education, secondary education, skill development, higher education, quality and professionalism of teachers, good governance, gender mainstreaming, education for respect and understanding, sustainable development, multi-grade teaching, strengthening HIV and AIDS education etc.

The communiqué issued at the conclusion of the conference clearly mentions that the Ministers highlighted the need for all children to have equity of access to quality education, regardless of geographical location, resources, gender, ethnicity and ability, in order to equip them to interact effectively in a global community. Ministers committed themselves to working towards this end as a priority, while recognizing the need to tailor approaches to take account of socio-economic and cultural diversity across different member countries.