

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**QUESTION NO 06.12.2010**  
**ANSWERED ON**  
**IDENTIFICATION OF MINORITY CONCENTRATION DISTRICTS .**

2882

Shri Rajkumar Dhoot

Will the Minister of COALMINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

- (a) the criteria for identification of Minority Concentration Districts (MCDs);
- (b) the number of such districts identified in different States, so far;
- (c) the benefits available to persons living in these districts; and
- (d) whether benefits are also available to those living in the districts who do not belong to minority community?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a) and (b) 90 Minority Concentration Districts (MCDs) were identified in 20 States/Union Territories in the country on the criteria of the presence of substantial minority population and relative backwardness falling behind the national averages in selected socio-economic and basic amenities parameters. The data used was from 2001 Census.

(c) and (d) A special area development programme called Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) to address the identified development deficits in these districts has been taken up to improve the backward conditions and bring them at par with the national averages. The benefits given under MsDP are available to all the communities living in the minority concentration districts. However, the programme provided that priority for location of social and economic infrastructure should be given to villages/blocks/localities having a substantial population of minority communities. The projects taken up in these districts include construction of Indira Awas Yojna (IAY) houses for families living below the poverty line; anganwadi centres; various types of health centres; industrial training institutes; polytechnic institutes; residential schools, various categories of school buildings; additional class rooms for various categories of schools; hostels for schools, industrial training institutes and polytechnic institutes; laboratories and toilets for schools; installation of hand pumps for drinking water; providing solar lanterns and teaching aids like computers, laboratory equipments etc.