

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3660**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.03.2018**

**SCHEMES FOR PARSI COMMUNITY**

†3660: **SHRI VISAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: CH. SUKHRAM YADAV: SMT CHHAYA VERMA:**

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Parsi population is on consistent decline despite different schemes having been conducted for the Parsi, the Jain, the Buddhist, the Sikh, the Christian and the Muslim minorities in the country;
- (b) whether Government would propose any separate and more effective scheme to protect the interests of the Parsi community in view of their gradually declining population;
- (c) the present number of the Parsi people living Below Poverty Line who are getting benefits of schemes; and
- (d) the amount spent through various schemes for the Parsi community during the last three years?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (b) : The population of Parsis (Zorostraians), a notified minority community has declined from 1,14,000 in 1941 to 57,264 in 2011 as per census data. Ministry of Minority Affairs has been implementing a scheme namely “ Jiyo Parsi- Scheme for containing the population decline of Parsis in India” since 2013-14 with the objective to contain and attempt to reverse the declining trend of Parsi population by adopting a scientific protocol and structured interventions to stabilize their population and balance their population in India.

(c) : The Scheme has three components:

- (i) Advocacy - includes counseling of couples with fertility, marriage, family and elderly counseling including workshops on relationship management, parenting, drug awareness etc.
- (ii) Health of Community- includes creche/child care support, senior citizen honorarium for child care, assistance to elderly etc. The income criterion for the family whose elderly to be benefitted is Rs. 10.0 lakhs per family per year.

(iii) Medical Assistance- includes Assisted Reproductive Technologies ( ART) which also includes In-vitro Fertilization and Intra Cytoplasmic Injection ( ICS) and other modes including surrogacy. Benefits under this component can be availed by any eligible Parsi couples. However, percentage of financial assistance depends on annual income of the beneficiary.

As on date, 151 babies have been borne with intervention of the scheme.

Under the "Hamari Dharohar" Scheme of the Ministry, three exhibitions namely The Everlasting Flame, Across Oceans and Flowing Silks and Threats of Continuity: Zoroastrian Life and Culture were held from 21.3.2016 to 30.05.2016 in Delhi to protect interest and create awareness about the Parsi Community.

In addition to above, a fourteen minutes Film titled " Not Just Sugar and Milk" produced with the financial support under " Jio Parsi " Scheme and was inaugurated on 23.12.2017 at the Udavada Utsav in Gujarat to understand the ethos of the Parsi Community.

(d): The details of amount spent under the scheme, during last three years and current year are as under:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Amount Allocated (Rs. in Crore)</b>	<b>Amount spent (Rs. in Crore)</b>
2014-15	2.00	0.50
2015-16	2.00	1.18
2016-17	1.55	1.54
2017-18 { As on 28/02/2018 }	2.00	1.42

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