

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 717
ANSWERED ON 26.07.2023

Scheme for Development of Minority Communities

717 # SHRI RAJENDRA GEHLOT:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to launch any scheme for the development of minority communities in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether there is any plan to provide scholarship or loan for the education of the students from Jain community, which has been given the status of the minority category, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) The Government already implements various Schemes for the welfare and upliftment of every strata, including minorities, specially the economically weaker and lesser privileged sections of the society, through the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Ministry of Textiles, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Women and Child Development and Ministry of Rural Development.

Ministry of Minority Affairs specifically implements various Schemes across the country for socio-economic and educational empowerment of the six (6) centrally notified minority communities. The schemes/ programmes implemented by the Ministry are as under :

- (A) Educational Empowerment Schemes
 - (1) Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme
 - (2) Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme
 - (3) Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship Scheme
- (B) Employment and Economic Empowerment Schemes

(4) Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PMVIKAS)

(5) National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) Scheme for providing concessional loans to minorities.

(C) Special Schemes

(6) Jiyo Parsi: A scheme for reversing the population decline of Parsis in India.

(7) Qaumi Waqf Board Taraqqiati Scheme (QWBTS) and Shahari Waqf Sampatti Vikas Yojana (SWSVY).

(D) Infrastructure Development Schemes

(8) Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK)

(b) The Ministry implements Pre-Matric, Post Matric and Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship Schemes for educational empowerment of the students belonging to 6 notified minority communities, including Jain community. Besides the Scholarship Schemes, National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC), a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under this Ministry implements Education Loan Scheme for the benefit of students belonging to minority communities including the Jain community. Under this Scheme, concessional credit is provided for pursuing technical and professional courses with maximum course duration of 5 years. Educational Loan of upto ₹ 20.00 lakh is available for 5 year courses in India @ ₹ 4.00 lakh per annum and ₹ 30.00 lakh for 5 year courses abroad @ ₹ 6.00 lakh per annum.
