GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2355

ANSWERED ON 16.12.2024

CHALLENGING THE FALSE AND MOTIVATED CLAIMS OF THE USCIRF

2355. SHRI SATNAM SINGH SANDHU:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the steps taken by the government to challenge the false and motivated claims of the US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF);
- (b) the details of steps taken in to refute fake claims of global institutions on the status of minorities in India; and
- (c) the reasons Government has not yet come up with its own assessment report/ studies on religious freedom and human rights of other nations?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

- (a) and (b): USCIRF is an organization with a political agenda and absolutely no credibility. The organization has a history of misrepresenting facts and peddles a motivated narrative about India. The commissioners, staffers and analysts at the USCIRF are biased, motivated and lack any understanding of India, its constitutional framework, its plurality and its democratic ethos. The annual reports only serve to further discredit the USCIRF.
- (c): Government of India does express its concerns with other countries on bilateral matters as well as issues that may have a bearing on its interests. However, India's approach has always prioritized constructive engagement, mutual understanding and dialogue, over publishing biased and motivated country specific reports.
