

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1246
ANSWERED ON 10.03.2025

**CLOSURE OF OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF LINGUISTICS MINORITIES
IN KOLKATA**

1246. SHRI SAMIK BHATTACHARYA

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of employees currently working in the office of the Linguistic Minority Commissioner in Kolkata, and whether Government plans to shut down or restructure this office;
- (b) the steps being taken to ensure uninterrupted services for linguistic minorities in the State of West Bengal, particularly in addressing grievances and preserving linguistic rights;
- (c) whether Government has any plans to strengthen the role of this office by expanding its jurisdiction, increasing staffing, or enhancing outreach efforts; and
- (d) the details of any recent reviews or policy changes regarding linguistic minority welfare in the State?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) At present one regular Assistant Commissioner (Group-A Central Secretariat Services Officer) and supporting staff is working at Kolkata office of the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities. It is also stated that at present there is no plan/proposal to close down or restructuring of the office.

(b) As per the mandate under Article 350 B of the Constitution of India, the office of Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities (CLM) continues to function. However, the basic responsibility of implementation of safeguards for linguistic minorities rests with the State Governments/ UT administrations, which are required to appoint a Nodal Officer for the purpose. Their active cooperation, therefore, is the key to safeguarding the interests of linguistic minorities.

(c) No Sir.

(d) No Sir
