

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No-910**  
ANSWERED ON – 27/07/2026

**PARTICIPATION OF SIKH COMMUNITIES IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS AND  
GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES**

910. SHRI SATNAM SINGH SANDHU:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by Government to promote social inclusion, dignity and equal participation of all Sikh communities in public institutions and governance structures;
- (b) whether any studies or consultations have been conducted to assess social mobility, representation and access to opportunities among historically marginalised Sikh groups;
- (c) the role of educational scholarships, leadership development programmes and entrepreneurship support in empowering youth from Dalit Sikh communities; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to further strengthen institutional mechanisms to promote equality and social harmony within religious communities?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) & (c): Ministry of Minority Affairs implements various schemes to improve the socio-economic condition of the minority communities including Sikh community through affirmative action and inclusive development to facilitate an equitable share for minority communities in education, employment, economic activities and to ensure their upliftment ensuring dignity and equal participation. The Ministry is implementing various schemes like Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS), Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK), loans at lower interest rates through National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC). Recently Sh. Harjit Singh Grewal from the Sikh Community has been appointed as the Chairperson of the National Commission for Minorities (NCM).

(b) : A Study on 'Outreach to the Sikh community' was conducted by the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) to better understand the unique challenges faced by this community. The purpose of the study was to identify gaps in current outreach efforts and recommend strategies to

improve support, inclusivity, and engagement for the Sikh community in various social, cultural, and economic sectors.

(d) : To promote social harmony and mutual understanding among different religious communities, National Commission for Minorities (NCM) regularly organizes Sarv Dharm Samvad (interfaith dialogue) meetings with representatives of minority communities and celebrated major festivals of minority religions. The Commission also advises all States/ UTs to institutionalize periodic Sarv Dharm Samvad meetings and Sarv Dharm Sadbhav events involving religious leaders, community representatives, NGOs, and government officials to promote social harmony, interfaith dialogue, and mutual understanding. These initiatives help address the minority concerns, create awareness, and ensure the effective implementation of government welfare schemes for minority communities.

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