

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5386
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.03.2018**

Participation of Muslim Women

5386. SHRI RAJU SHETTY :

Will the Minister of **MINORITY AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is taking steps to ensure participation of Muslim women in the development process;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the measures being taken in this direction during the ongoing five year plan across the country particularly in Maharashtra; and
- (d) the road map prepared for development of Muslim population in Muslim dominated areas of the country during the ongoing five year plan?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) : The Ministry of Minority Affairs has implemented three specific schemes in all states/UTs including Maharashtra which are exclusively for women/girls from the six centrally notified minorities, namely, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Parsis and Jains. These schemes are as follows:-

- (i) Nai-Roshni - For leadership development of minority women belonging to notified minority communities. The scheme aims to empower and instill confidence in women by providing knowledge, tool and techniques for interacting with Government system and others at all levels. The scheme is implemented through selected Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) all over the country.
- (ii) Begum Hazrat Mahal National Scholarship for Meritorious Girls – The Scheme provides scholarships to meritorious girls studying from class IX to XII belonging to minorities. The scheme is implemented through Maulana Azad Education Foundation.

- (iii) Mahila Samridhi Yojana – The scheme is implemented through National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC) wherein skill development training is imparted to group of women in women friendly trades. Training period is of maximum six months and raw material cost of upto Rs.1,500/- per trainee and stipend @ Rs.1000/- per trainee is provided. During the period of training, women are formed into Self Help Group, followed by infusion of micro-credit maximum upto Rs.1.00 lacs per member for the purpose of using the skill developed during the training, for income generation activities.

Besides, the Ministry of Minority Affairs has also implemented the following schemes/programmes for educational empowerment of the minority community from the six centrally notified minorities, namely, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Parsis and Jains with separate earmarking of targets for women/girls:-

- (1) Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme
- (2) Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme
- (3) Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship Scheme
- (4) Maulana Azad National Fellowship
- (5) Free coaching and Allied Scheme
- (6) Nai Manzil - Integrated education and livelihood initiative for minority communities.
- (7) Padho Pardes - Scheme of Interest Subsidy on Educational Loans for Overseas Studies.
- (8) Nai Udaan - Support for students clearing Prelims conducted by UPSC, SSC, State Public Service Commission (PSC) .

At least 30% of the targets under the schemes at S.No. 1 to 7 above are earmarked for girl students. The aforesaid schemes have been implemented for the minority community in all the states/UTs including Maharashtra.

Details of all the above schemes are available on the websites of this Ministry (www.minorityaffairs.gov.in), Maulana Azad Education Foundation (www.maef.nic.in) and NMDFC (www.nmdfc.org).
