

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. \*309  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02-01-2019**

**Minority Status to Communities**

\*309. SHRI R. PARTHIPAN:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to enlist more communities in the country under minority status and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is pressure from certain State Governments in this regard and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the criteria followed for adding new communities under minority status; and
- (d) whether the Government has any permanent mechanism for the purpose and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (b) OF LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 309 FOR ANSWER ON 02.01.2019 ASKED BY SHRI  
R. PARTHIPAN REGARDING MINORITY STATUS TO COMMUNITIES**

(a) & (b) No Madam. A proposal for recognition of Lingayat and Veerashavia community, who believe in Basava's teachings, as a religious minority and upon such recognition take action to notify them as minority community under section 2 (c) of National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992 was received from Government of Karnataka in March, 2018. The proposal was examined in depth in consultation with Ministry of Home Affairs & National Commission for Minorities (NCM) an apex organisation constituted under NCM Act, 1992 for advising the Government on Minority issues. The request of Government of Karnataka has not been acceded to.

(c) & (d) The Central Government notifies the minority community under section 2 (c) of NCM Act, 1992. However for deciding any community as minority community, advice of various Central Ministries/Departments, National Commission for Minorities, other concerned organisations, demographical positions, views of the stakeholders are taken into consideration.

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