

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3057
ANSWERED ON 19.03.2025

SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHALLENGES FACED BY MINORITIES

3057. SHRI ZIA UR REHMAN:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognizance of the socio-economic challenges faced by minority communities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the initiatives proposed by the Government to enhance education, employment and welfare opportunities for minorities in the coming years;
- (c) whether the Government has launched any new scheme for the socio-economic empowerment of minorities in the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the plan of the Government for providing scholarships to the students of minority communities indicating the changes made in this regard as compared to the previous years?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (d): Yes. The Government of India has been striving to improve the socio-economic status of all communities, including minority communities, through various schemes and incentives through a saturation model, thereby ensuring that socio-economic status of all communities at par with the national mainstream. Ministry of Minority Affairs specifically implements various schemes across the country for socio-economic and educational empowerment of the six (6) centrally notified minority communities. These schemes are meant for the weaker segments of minority. The schemes/programmes implemented by Minority Affairs for the welfare of minority communities are as under:

1. Educational Empowerment Schemes

- (i) Pre-Matric, (ii) Post-Matric and (iii) Merit-cum-Means based scholarships

2. Employment and Economic Empowerment Schemes

- (i) Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS)
- (ii) Equity to National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) for providing concessional loans to minorities.

3. Infrastructural Development Scheme

- (i) Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakaram (PMJVK)

All the schemes together have contributed in the acquisition of high level skills, greater opportunities in livelihood, high employability potential, improved access to better infrastructure, improved health and in the overall welfare of the Minority Communities.
