

Supplementary Agenda Item No. 1

Agenda proposed by the National Commission for Minorities

One of the mandate of National Commission for Minorities is evaluate the progress of the development of minorities under the Union and the States. The National Commission for Minorities has been requesting the Central Government, Ministries/ Departments to furnish the Quarterly Progress Report on the various developmental schemes being operated by them. Unfortunately the response has not been encouraging.

The Commission came across a news item published in National Daily Newspaper "The Times of India" New Delhi Edition, dated 20th February 2010 captioned "Only 5% of Plan funds spent on minorities", which was quite disturbing. The base of the report was stated to be the data collected by "Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability (CBGA)".

Of the 90 Minority Concentration Districts (MCD), 16 have not formulated a plan under ambitious Multi-Sectoral Development Plan (MSDP) to provide better housing, education etc.

Only Rs. 77 crore (4.93%) were actually spent upto September 2009 out of Rs. 1,562 crore sanctioned for remaining 74 districts.

Only 2.8% is spent out of total Rs. 2,750 crore sanctioned for 11th Plan Period (2007-12), after more than half of the period of Eleventh Plan is over.

Only 17% of total funds available with districts were spent till December 2009.

In most States, funds for 2009-10 were released only in December 2009.

Further data revealed for the current year in the news item, according to the Ministry's Report, were quite discouraging.

Just 3201 houses were built out of a target of 205,260 for Muslim families under the Indira Awas Yojana.

Just 1523 hand pumps were installed out of target of 14,020.

Only 5 health centres were built out of the target of 1,175

Only 20 anganwadi centres were built out of target of 18,970.

The main reason behind the pathetic performance was stated to be lack of trained and adequate staff, infrastructure and planning at the district and state levels. Involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions was suggested as one of the measures to improve the situation.

The Conference may give suggestions on this aspect.