

**ACTION TAKEN MEMORANDUM ON THE RECOMMENDATION CONTAINED IN THE 12<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR MINORITIES FOR THE PERIOD  
FROM 2004 TO 2005**

**Chapter-11 Para No. 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, Page 49**

**RECOMMENDATION**

**Recommendation No.1**

Till such time the Constitutional right to free and compulsory education for the children up to 14 years of age becomes enforceable, the educational authorities of the Union and the State Governments should not create hurdles in setting up of schools by the minority communities at their initiatives and in such management of such schools. The Minority status to such schools should be granted and necessary Government assistance provided.

**Recommendation No.2**

Educational programmes for the development of SCs and STs should be extended to the religious minorities as well.

**Recommendation No.3**

Particular measures should be taken to promote modern school education for Muslim girls.

**ACTION TAKEN**

Minorities have the freedom to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice. If this right is infringed/ violated, the matter could be brought before the National Commission for Minorities Educational Institutions (NCMEI) by the affected parties.

Further, Minority Cells have been set up in bodies like All India Council for Technical Educational (AICTE), University Grants Commission (UGC), Central Board of Secondary Educational (CBSE), etc. The Minority Cells in these Institutions will be able to help the minority institutions overcome some of the problems they are facing in this respect. The Government is also implementing the educational developmental programmes for all communities including SCs/STs and minorities and to the extent the minorities form part of the clientele they are benefitting from.

The Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programmes for the welfare of Minorities focuses on enhancing opportunities for education through equitable availability of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) scheme, improving access to school education, providing greater resources for teaching urdu, modernizing Madrasa education, providing scholarships for meritorious students from minority communities and improving educational infrastructure through the Maulana Azad Education Foundation.

Besides, the Central Government has initiated the following schemes which are meant for minorities, including Muslim girls, to promote modern school education among them:

- (i) Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBV) are being set up for girls at upper primary level in educationally backward blocks of the country where a minimum 75% seats are for SC/ST/OBC/Minorities; 210 KGBVs have been sanctioned in minority dominated blocks;
- (ii) Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF) has launched a scholarship scheme for meritorious girl students belonging to minorities in 2003-04.
- (iii) A new programme of 20,000 merit-cum-means based scholarship scheme to encourage students belonging to minorities to pursue higher studies is being launched.

The scheme of improvement of science education being implemented by the Ministry of HRD should have a specific component for the Muslim school children.

#### **ACTION TAKEN**

The scheme for improvement of science education has since transferred to the state sector.

The Madarasa Modernisation programme provides assistance for appointment of science teachers and for supply of science kits. It provides for help to set up libraries.

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#### **7. RECOMMENDATION**

There should be provision for mandatory and uniform payment of compensation for death, injury and damages to properties in the communal violence.

#### **ACTION TAKEN**

The Communal Violence (prevention, Control and Rehabilitation of Victims) Bill, 2005, introduced in Rajya Sabha in December 2005, provides that while providing compensation and relief to the victims of communal violence there shall be no discrimination on the ground of sex, caste, community, descent or religion and there should be uniformity of assistance irrespective of caste, community or religion.

The Parliamentary related Standing Committee has since submitted its report to the Parliament on 13.12.2006. Thus, the Bill provides for necessary measures for mandatory and uniform compensation for victims of communal riots.

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#### **9. RECOMMENDATION**

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment may advise the States/ UTs to adopt the Karnataka model for fixing targets for extending the benefits to the minorities on the basis of the percentage of minority population in the districts. The implementation of the 15 Point Programme should be monitored as closely as the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation is doing for the 20 Point Programme.

#### **ACTION TAKEN**

The Prime Minister' 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities has since been recast. The Programme includes- (a) Enhancing opportunities for education, (b) Equitable share in economic activities and employment, (c) Improving the condition of living of minorities; and (d) Prevention & control of communal riots. Two important aspects of the programme are that (i) wherever possible, earmarking of 15% of targets and funds for minorities in the schemes included in the programme, and (ii) that the Committee of Secretaries (COS) would review the progress of the programme, with respect to monitorable targets, once every six months and report the status to the Cabinet.

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Parsi community would also be studied while collecting this database. The results obtained from these studies would help in formulating specific measures for adopting the infertility condition among the Parsi.