

SCHEMES FOR WELFARE OF MINORITIES

The Government has been implementing various minority education schemes to educate Muslim children by providing special opportunities. Under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, 15% outlay is targeted for the Minority Concentration Districts (MCD)/Areas to achieve the goal of universalisation of elementary education, to meet infrastructure gaps for schools, classrooms, teachers and providing access by opening new schools. Other schemes which also benefit minorities and Muslims include the following:-

- a) **Scheme for Providing Quality Education in Madarsas (SPQEM) and Scheme of Infrastructure Development in Minority Institutions (IDMI):** Rs. 540.34 crore have been sanctioned for 25,439 Madarsas and assisting 65,882 teachers under SPQEM since inception. Under IDMI, an amount of Rs. 122.07 crore has been released for 728 institutions since inception.
- b) **Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA):**
Since 2006-07, 24,264 Schools constructed and 35,567 new schools opened; 2.8 lakh additional classrooms constructed.
- c) **Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA):**
From 2009-10 till date, 10,230 New Secondary Schools have been sanctioned, out of which 1,162 (11.36%) schools have been sanctioned in Minority Concentration Districts (MCDs) of which 825 have become functional.
- d) **Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme (JNV):**
JNVs have been set up in all districts except in Tamil Nadu. The Ministry has a target of setting up 378 new JNVs during the Twelfth Plan. A proposal for setting up 196 JNVs in Special Category Districts including all Minority Concentration Districts will be placed before the Expenditure Finance Committee shortly.
- e) **Setting up of Girls Hostels and Model Schools under Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA):**
Girls Hostel Scheme, under implementation since 2008-09, envisages construction of 100 bedded hostels for girls in each Educationally Backward Block (EBB), with the provision of earmarking at least 50% for girls' from SC/ST/OBC/Minority Communities and BPL families for students of Secondary and Higher Secondary classes. 195 Girls Hostels have been sanctioned in MCDs. As on date, 19 (10 in Karnataka, 2 in M.P. & 7 in Uttrakhand), Girls Hostels are functional. 18 Girls Hostels in Assam are expected to be functional from Jan., 14.
- f) **Mid-Day-Meal Scheme:**
A proposal for extension of Mid-Day-Meal Scheme to private unaided schools in SC/ST and Minority Concentration Areas is under consideration of the Government.
- g) **Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs):**
544 KGBVs are sanctioned in Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) having more than 20% Muslim population (out of 3609 sanctioned in the EBBs in the country). 543 are operational enrolling 25.03% Muslim Girls. Provision has been made to provide for a separate section for Urdu medium instructions in KGBVs located in minority blocks. KGBV recurring cost norms are under revision to directly benefit per girl cost of food, maintenance and upward revision of teacher salaries.

h) **Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS):**

Out of 88 MCDs eligible under the Scheme, JSS has already been set-up in 33 districts and a proposal for opening JSS in the remaining 55 MCDs is under process. As on 31.10.2013, out of 248,757 beneficiaries, 30,629 (12.31%) belong to minorities.

i) **Establishment of the Model Degree Colleges:**

Out of 374 districts identified as Educationally Backward Districts (EBDs), 64 are Minority Concentrated Districts (MCDs). Establishment of Model Degree Colleges in 27 MCDs has been approved. The remaining MCDs will be covered under the new Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA).

j) **Women Hostels:**

UGC has sanctioned 285 Women's Hostels during 11th Plan in 90 Minority Concentration Districts (MCDs). 25 women hostels during 2012-13 and 68 hostels during 2013-14 have been approved/sanctioned in MCDs.

k) **Polytechnics:**

Out of 300 unserved / underserved districts identified under the scheme, 287 Districts have been provided partial financial assistance to set up a new Polytechnic. 57 Identified Minority Districts are eligible for assistance under the norms of the Scheme. As on 31-07-2013, 54 out of the 57 eligible Districts have been covered and an amount of ₹.319.78 crores has been released for construction of new govt Polytechnics in these Districts.

l) **Setting up of Block Institutes of Teacher Education:**

Out of 96 Block Institutes for Teachers Education (BITEs), 40 BITEs were approved for being set up in Minority Concentrated Blocks. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme in the XII Plan inter-alia envisages establishment of Block Institutes of Teachers Education in 196 SC/ST/Minority Concentration Districts (MCDs). This has covered 15 States/UTs. In the 12th Plan there is proposal to cover 100% BITEs.

m) **Appointment of Language Teachers:**

During 2012-13, an amount of Rs.1.38 crore was released to the Govt. of Punjab for payment of salary of 42 Urdu teachers. During 2013-14, no financial assistance has been released to any State Govt. for appointment of Urdu teachers, as no viable proposal has been received.

n) **Providing modern education to Madarasas** under National Institute of Open Schooling and easing of norms for affiliation of Minority Educational Institutions.

o) **Equal Opportunity Cells:**

Equal Opportunity Cells have been established in 23 Central Universities, 6 Deemed Universities and 3987 Colleges financially assisted by the University Grants Commission.

p) **Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan:**

RUSA is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is recently launched to act as an umbrella scheme to be implemented in mission mode in the State Higher Education Sector with a financial outlay of Rs.22,855 crores of which Rs.16,227 crores will be the Central share during the 12th Plan Period. This Scheme will improve equity in providing adequate opportunities of higher education to socially and educationally deprived communities including minorities.

The Ministry of Minority Affairs is implementing various schemes including Pre-matric, Post-matric, Merit-cum-Means Scholarships, and Maulana Azad National Fellowship.

The achievements made under the affirmative interventions under various schemes for the promotion of education of the minorities have been quite encouraging. Trends indicate a consistent increase in the enrolment of Muslim children at elementary level. The enrolment of Muslim children at Primary level as a percentage of total enrolment has increased from 9.4% in 2006-07 to 14.2% in 2012-13, and at the Upper Primary level, the enrolment has increased from 7.2% to 12.1% during the same period.
