

**ACTION TAKEN MEMORANDUM ON THE RECOMMENDATION CONTAINED IN THE
11TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR MINORITIES FOR THE
PERIOD FROM 2003 TO 2004**

Chapter-15 Para No. 15.2

1. RECOMMENDATION

The list of the Minority Concentration Districts should be reviewed by the Government of India, on the basis of the demographic profile of the minority population on the basis of the 2001 Census and a new list of such districts prepared.

ACTION TAKEN

The list of Minority Concentration Districts (MCDs) is being revised on the basis of Census, 2001.

Chapter-15 Para No. 15.2

2. RECOMMENDATION

School textbooks should be scrutinized to see whether there is any material that creates hatred among the minorities. The textbooks should include basic information about all the religions in order to nurture secular outlook in the minds of the children.

ACTION TAKEN

The New National Curriculum Framework, 2005 addresses the concerns of the Commission and text books are being revised accordingly for several classes. The NCERT/CBSE has already introduced revised text books for Classes 1, III, VI, IX and XI.

Chapter-15 Para No. 15.4

3. RECOMMENDATION

There should be independent investigating agency with the Union and State Governments to enquire into communal riots and there should be speedy trial of the accused on the basis of day-to-day hearing. Adequate protection should be provided to the witnesses so that they do not turn hostile under pressure.

ACTION TAKEN

The Communal Violence (Prevention, Control and Rehabilitation of Victims) Bill, 2005 which was introduced in Rajya Sabha in December, 2005 provides for establishment of Special Courts which shall conduct proceedings on day-to-day basis and also provide for adequate protection to witnesses.

As regards independent investigation agencies with the Union and State Governments, this is already available in the form of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) with Central Government.

Further, the Bill provides for constitution of special Investigating Teams, as the State may think it necessary, where the State Government comes to the conclusion that the investigation of offences committed in any communally disturbed area were not carried out properly in a fair and impartial manner.

Chapter-15 Para No. 15.5

4. RECOMMENDATION

There should be proportionate representation of minorities in the Armed Forces and Police Forces.

ACTION TAKEN

Recruitment in the Armed Forces is based on merit and is open to every citizen of the country, including members of the minorities without any discrimination on the basis of their caste, creed, religion or region. Indian Armed Forces have an all India orientation in which each State contributes its fair share of manpower to the Armed Forces.

In so far as recruitment in the Para-military forces are concerned Central Para-Military Forces have been asked to ensure sufficient representation to minorities through making the minority community candidate aware of the employment opportunities and the incentives/prospects available in the Forces.

Further, the State Governments/UT Administrations have been advised that the state police forces should represent the social structure in their respective States so that the forces retain their secular character.

Chapter-15 Para No. 15.7

7. RECOMMENDATION

Socio-economic and educational surveys should be conducted for minorities in all States.

ACTION TAKEN

The National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and National Institute of Education and Public Administration (NIEPA) conducts periodical surveys to bring out data regarding various aspects of education.

Chapter-15 Para No. 15.8

1. RECOMMENDATION

Encroachments to Wakf properties, should be removed and these properties should be exempted from rent control laws.

ACTION TAKEN

In accordance with the Wakf Act, 1995, State Wakf Boards/State Governments are required to take action for removal of encroachments from Wakf properties including legal action. Similarly, the exemption of Wakf properties from Rent Control Laws also falls under the jurisdiction of the State Governments. The State Governments have been advised to take appropriate action in the matter.

Chapter-15 Para No. 15.9

9. RECOMMENDATION

Suitable steps should be taken to increase share of minority communities in public/private employment.

ACTION TAKEN

There is no religion based reservation in appointment to post/services under the Government.

All public sector undertakings have been advised that wherever a Selection Committee/Board is constituted for making recruitment to 10 or more vacancies in Group 'C' and Group 'D' posts/services, it shall be mandatory to have one member belonging to a minority community in such committees/boards. Administrative Ministers have been requested to direct the official directions in all public sector undertakings to ensure that interest of the minorities are taken care of.

The Prime-Minister's New 15-Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities focuses, among others, on an equitable share for the minorities in economic activities and employment and recruitment to state and central services.

Chapter-15 Para No. 15.10

2. RECOMMENDATION

Adequate flow of credit to minority communities for nationalized banks for trade and business may be ensured.

ACTION TAKEN

All commercial banks, both in the public and private sector, have already been instructed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to ensure smooth flow of credit to minority communities so that these communities could secure benefits flowing from various Government sponsored schemes.

Recently, RBI has also issued directions to banks specifically to promote financial inclusion. Further, Reserve Bank also monitors the credit flow to minorities.