

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1989
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2008
REDEFINING OF TERM MINORITY
Gangwar Shri Santosh Kumar

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to redefine the term `Minority`;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions has expressed its reservation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the reaction of the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI. A.R. ANTULAY)

(a) to (e): The Constitution (One Hundred and Third Amendment) Bill to confer constitutional status on the National Commission for Minorities was introduced in the Lok Sabha in December, 2004. The Bill includes a definition of `minority`. The recommendations of the Standing Committee on Social Justice & Empowerment regarding the Bill have been considered and some issues, including those raised by the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions, are still under examination.