

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINORITY AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4485  
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2008  
WELFARE OF MINORITIES LIVING IN ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS  
Bhakta Shri Manoranjan

**Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is taking any measures for the welfare of the Minorities especially Christians living in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any complaints regarding the census related to Minorities particularly Christian population;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (A.R. ANTULAY)

(a) and (b): Government is committed to ensuring the welfare of the minorities in the country. The Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities which has specific programme interventions to improve the social, economic and educational status of minorities, including Christians, is a major step in this direction. A multi-sectoral development programme has also been formulated to address the development deficits of 90 identified backward districts, including the district of Nicobar.

(c): No Sir.

(d) & (e): Do not arise.