

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:440
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2015
EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION
Diwakar Shri Rajesh Kumar

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up Equal Opportunities Commission for all the communities in the country so as to provide equal opportunities to all the deprived sections;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be set up; and
- (c) the schemes being implemented/ likely to be implemented by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)

(a) to (c) In pursuance of the Sachar Committee recommendation, the Government had set up an Expert Group to examine and determine, inter alia, the structure and functions of an Equal Opportunity Commission (EOC) to address the grievances of deprived groups. Based on the Expert Group Report and recommendations of Group of Ministers, the draft EOC Bill 2013 for the notified Minorities only was approved by the Competent Authority in February, 2014 for placing the Bill before the Parliament. In the meantime, with the formation of the new Government at the Centre in May 2014, this matter needs consultations afresh as per the extant instructions. Accordingly, the draft Cabinet Note along with the EOC Bill, 2013 is under inter-ministerial consultations. After consultations, this matter would be considered appropriately.