

**Towards Making India
an Inclusive Society:
Focus Telangana**



Indian Muslims

- There are 172.2 million people in India who identify themselves as Muslims as per Census 2011
- Indian Muslims at 14.2% of the overall population are the largest minority group in the country.
- India has the third largest Muslim population in the world after Indonesia and Pakistan.
- The Indian Muslim community is as diverse as the Indian society. Religion unites as much as caste, sect, region, language and trade divide them.

Situation of Muslims in India – Sachar Committee Findings (1/2)

- ✓ Poverty among Muslims is higher than the national average. Overall 22.7% of India's population was poor in 2004-05. SC/STs together were the worst off at 35%, followed by Muslims at 31%.
- ✓ The average amount lent per account to Muslims is about half that of other Minorities, and one-third of "others". Some banks have identified a number of Muslim areas as 'negative geographical zones' where bank credit and other facilities are not easily provided.
- ✓ Studies found that, compared to the Muslim majority areas, the areas inhabited by fewer Muslims had better roads, local bus-stops, pucca houses, sewage and drainage and water supply facilities.
- ✓ About 40% of large villages with a substantial Muslim concentration do not have any medical facilities.

Situation of Muslims in India – Sachar Committee Findings (2/2)

• Education

- ✓ The literacy rate among Muslims in 2001 was 59.1%, below the national average (64.8%) with the gap greatest in urban areas. The gap between Muslims and other Socio Religious Categories (SRCs) increases as the level of education increases.
- ✓ According to the 2001 Census, 7% of the population aged 20 years and above are graduates or hold diplomas, while only 4% among the Muslim population does.
- ✓ About one third of small villages with high concentration of Muslims do not have any educational institutions.

• Employment

- ✓ Just 6.5% of Muslims held salaried positions in government, public and large private sector units as opposed 13.1% of the general population in 2004-'05.
- ✓ Muslims representation in IAS is a mere 3%, an abysmal 1.8% in IFS, 4.5% in Railways, (of which 98.7% are at lower levels) and just 4.4% in health.
- ✓ Muslim participation rates in security related activities, such as the police, was 4% as compared to SCs/STs at 12% and OBCs at 23% each. There is negligible representation of Muslims in the judiciary (7.8 per cent).
- ✓ A relatively high share of workers in Muslim community engage in self-employment. They constituted about 61 per cent of the total Muslim workforce as compared to about 55 per cent of the Hindu workers.

Post Sachar Evaluation Committee (Kundu Committee)

Outcome indicators for Muslims at all levels of education are closer to the ST community. Though enrolment of Muslim children in primary schools is high, there is also a very high dropout rate so the community.

Inadequacy of health care infrastructure in Muslim areas, as highlighted in the Sachar Committee report, has not been addressed despite initiating specific schemes.

Of the 37 government ministries and departments whose employment data was analysed, the minorities, on an average, constituted 7.5% of new recruitment in Group A services between 2006-07 and 2012-13, 9.1% in Group B Services, 8.6% each in Group C and D services.

Schemes under the Prime Minister's 15-point programme are plagued by lack of funds. Ministry of Minority Affairs (MoMA) asked for Rs. 58,000 crore under the 12th Five-Year-Plan but the actual outlay was fixed at only Rs. 17,323 crore.

The share of public sector lending (PSL) to minorities has increased in 2013-'14, Muslims could get only 44.31%, while Sikh had 24.58%, Christian 21.87%, Buddhists 2.06%, Parsis 2.23% and Jains 4.96% demonstrating that minorities other than Muslims were able to corner larger share in PSL.

Key Recommendations of Sachar Committee

- ✓ Set up an Equal Opportunity Commission to look into grievances of deprived groups like minorities.
- ✓ Introduce incentives based on a 'diversity index' in education, employment, housing, etc to promote equal opportunities for all socio-religious communities including Muslims.
- ✓ Create a nomination procedure to increase participation of minorities in public bodies.
- ✓ Establish a delimitation procedure that does not reserve constituencies with high minority population for SCs.
- ✓ Increase employment share of Muslims, particularly where there is great deal of public dealing. Work out mechanisms to link madarasas with higher secondary school board.
- ✓ Set up a national Wakf development corporation with a revolving corpus fund of Rs. 500 crore.
- ✓ Create a National Data Bank (NDB) where all relevant data for various socio-religious categories are maintained.

Key Recommendations of Kundu Committee

The ambit of the Diversity Index based incentive system recommended by the Sachar Committee should include spheres of education, employment, housing, healthcare, access to development schemes and various other sectors and seek to provide remedies.

Enactment of an anti-discrimination legislation to prohibit discrimination based on disability, sex, caste, religion

Development for the Muslim minority must be built on bedrock of a sense of security for which communal polarization needs to be dealt with firmly and urgently.

Government-led planned and targeted recruitment drives in a time-bound manner to combat and reverse “exclusionary urbanisation” due to restricted mobility of Muslims due to social factors and discrimination.

Expansion of the 15-point programme to Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act and Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana.

Exemption of Waqf properties from certain enactments is required to serve the greater philanthropic purpose of waqf properties through legal amendments.



Telangana

- More than three-fourth of total population of Muslims in the state reside in in urban areas.
- The Muslim community's literacy rate is little higher than the overall literacy rate of Hindu community although there are urban-rural disparities and within the Muslim community.
- Health indicators such as IMR, MMR, immunization rates, nutritional status are either better or at par with other SRCs.
- The increase of MPCE of Muslim community as a whole is quite low and even lesser than the SCs and STs. The annual growth rate of MPCE for Muslims is the lowest in the state among all SRCs.
- The poverty ratio analysis shows that there has been a huge decline in poverty in the state from 2004-05 to 2011-12. But, the decline for Muslim community is the lowest one and it is even lower than SCs and STs.
- Most of the credits to the Muslims are from non-institutional sectors like SHGs, moneylenders and relatives. The lack of accessibility to bank means weak inclusion. Money lenders exploit the situation by charging high rate of interests.

Interim Recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry, Telangana

Launch of a Diversity index in all educational institutions and employers, public and private, across Telangana

Setting up of an Equal Opportunity Commission in Telangana state covering gender, caste, religion and other socio religious, linguistic and economic groups.

Working towards a bill that recommends reservation for Muslims in education and in jobs and in defining the way forward in terms of tackling legal and constitutional issues

Fill the vacancies for Urdu teachers in schools and colleges. Integrated study centre for competitive exams - Engineering, medicine, civil service, law.

Set up a start up fund, that would be open for all small businesses, to be mentored by an expert group of industrialists and civil society members.

Monitoring mechanism and an open portal for regular count of number of Muslim beneficiaries of Chief Minister's schemes and Central government funded programs.

Thank you