

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1713
ANSWERED ON 04.08.2025

VACANCIES IN NATIONAL MINORITIES COMMISSION

1713. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Minorities Commission (NCM) has been functioning without a Chairperson since April 2025, the reason for the delay in appointment and the details thereof;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that five vacancies in the Commission have remained unfilled since December 2024, if so, reasons for the delay in appointments and the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has fixed any timeline for filling these vacancies and the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government is ensuring compliance with the National Minorities Commission Act, 1992 in the absence of a chairperson and members in the NCM?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIREN RIJU)

(a) to (c): The National Commission for Minorities (NCM) is a statutory body, established under the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992. The Commission has been, inter-alia, entrusted with the responsibility to safeguard the interests of the Minority communities.

As per Section 3(2) of the NCM Act 1992, the Commission consists of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and five Members, to be nominated by the Central Government from amongst persons of eminence, ability and integrity provided that five Members including the Chairperson shall be from amongst the minority communities. Each Member holds office for a period of three years from the date of assumption of office.

The NCM Act, 1992 further stipulates that the Central Government is to nominate Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the commission. At present, these posts are vacant.

(d): As per Section 8(2) of the NCM Act, 1992, the Commission shall regulate its own procedure. The grievances which are received in the Commission continue to be taken up with the concerned authorities for redressal by the Office of NCM, till the time Chairman and Members of the Commission are appointed by the Government.
