



General Assembly

Distr.: General
5 March 2014

English only

Human Rights Council

Twenty-fifth session

Agenda item 3

**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

Written statement^{*} submitted by Ekta Welfare Society, a non-governmental organization in special consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following written statement which is circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

[18 February 2014]

^{*} This written statement is issued, unedited, in the language(s) received from the submitting non-governmental organization(s).

GE.14-11770



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SOCIAL JUSTICE AND RIGHTS FOR INDIAN MUSLIM MINORITIES

In every country, the citizens have been conferred with Human rights and the responsibility to protect them has also been entrusted to the respective governments. India is the largest democratic country in the world. The Muslim minority community population is about 40 per cent but has been deprived of their social and economic rights. Even after 67 years of independence, they are suffering socially, economically and educationally also. The other communities like Scheduled Caste, Scheduled tribes of majority class have been progressing speedily because of Reservation, granted by the Indian Constitution, and various State sponsored Schemes through Social, Educational and financial Institutions etc. The various State and Central Govt. also, consider the Muslim Community as their Vote Bank and therefore, lingering on their demands from one election to another. When they demonstrate to raise their voice to protect their human rights, they are to face police action resulting in victimization by the state and even declared terrorist and anti national elements. Even today, many innocent young Muslims are behind the bars for an indefinite period, without any trial for no fault on their part. And so many families are in the state of starvation.

Although two Commissions viz. Sachar Committee and Rangath Mishra committee formed to suggest ways and means for upliftment of Muslim minorities but their recommendations are still awaiting any action by the Govt. the nikahnama of Muslim is not considered valid till a further registration is made by the local authorities. Registration of inter-religion marriages is refused/ delayed under one or the other pretext whereas the Hindu marriages under Arya Samaj and other religious systems recognized valid lawfully.

The various communal forces like Shiv Sena, Bajrang Dal, Vishwa Hindu Parishad, RSS etc. are playing free hand to discriminate the interests of Muslim minorities and a threat to Law and order. The Muslim minority in India is still demonstrating and fighting for safeguarding of their human rights, the law is the same for all the citizens of India but implementation is different due to political and other influences.

The following points are therefore, to be considered for upliftment of Muslim Minorities in India.

1. To implement the recommendations of Sachar Committee and Rangnath Mishra committee to uplift the Educational, Employment and Social Status of Muslim Minorities in India. By way of granting appropriate reservation. Opening of academic and religious Schools, Colleges, Universities etc. for Muslim minorities.
2. To grant Salaries to mullahs, Moulvies, and religious teachers in Madarsa from State Funds on regular basis at par with Pujaries, and other Govt. employees.
3. Marriages Certificates granted under Muslim personal law, whether under the Muslim Community or Inter religion may be considered valid without any further registration for all the purposes.
4. The cases of innocent Muslims facing trial for over. One year in the jails be reviewed and may be released.
5. Set up by forming special committees.

Further measures as may be considered appropriate may be taken by the UN and Indian Govt. for the betterment of Muslim community and provide equal opportunities.