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I am surprised to know that many people may still not know about the Sachhar Committee Report.

In 2005, the then PM Manmohan Singh had constituted a High Level Committee headed by former CJ of DHC Rajinder Sachar to study the social, economic and educational condition of Muslims

Please elaborate, what those arguments were.

Majority of us don't know

— Muhammad Riyaz Qureshi (@MuhammadRiyazQ1) [December 22, 2020](#)

The key findings of the Committee's reports are.

1. The Committee estimated that the population of Muslims will stabilise at 18% to 21% by 2101.

2. The literacy rate among

Muslims in 2001 was 59.1%, below the national average (64.8%) with the gap greatest in urban areas.

3. The report also noted that despite only 3% of Muslim children among

the school going age go to madarsas. Instead, many Muslim children are enrolled in Maktabas, which provide supplementary religious education in addition to enrolment in public schools.

4. 7% of the population aged 20 years and above are graduates or

hold diplomas, while only 4% among the Muslim population does. The

gap between Muslims and other Socio Religious Categories (SRCs) increases as the level of education increases.

5. unemployment rates among Muslim graduates is the highest among SRCs both among the poor and the non-poor.

6. Worker population

ratios for Muslims are significantly lower than for all other SRCs in rural areas, but only marginally lower in urban areas.

7. relatively, high share of Muslim workers engaged in self-employment activity," primarily in urban areas and for women workers. Participation of Muslim

salaries of workers in both the public and private sectors is quite low, and the average salary of Muslim workers is lower.

8. Participation of Muslim workers in the informal sector is much higher than the average population, and the percentage of Muslim women working within their homes (70%) is much higher than all workers (51%).⁹

9. The overall participation of

Muslims in Central Government departments and agencies is abysmally low at all levels. There is not one state in which the representation of Muslims in the government departments matches their population share.

10. The access of Muslims to bank credit is inadequate. Some banks have identified Muslim areas as 'negative zones' where bank credit etc are not easily provided. The average amount lent per account to Muslims is about half that of other Minorities, and one-third of "others".

11. About one third of small villages with high concentration of Muslims do not have any educational institutions. About 40% of large villages with a substantial Muslim concentration do not have any medical facilities.

12. Muslim majority areas lack better infrastructure.

13. In terms of poverty Muslims are only slightly better than SCs/STs, though slightly worse in urban areas. According to NSSO data, overall 22.7% of India's population was poor in 2004-05, with SC/STs together as the worst off (at 35%), followed by Muslims at 31%.

14. According to the report, "the abysmally low representation of Muslim OBCs suggests that the benefits of entitlements meant for the backward classes are yet to reach them.

Recommendations:

A. Set up an Equal Opportunity Commission to look into grievances of deprived groups like minorities.

B. Create a 'nomination' procedure to increase participation of minorities in public bodies.

C. Establish a delimitation procedure that does not reserve constituencies with high minority population for SCs.

D. Encourage the University Grants Commission to evolve a system where part of allocation to colleges and universities is linked to diversity in student population.

E. Provide different types of affirmative action to three main Muslim groups.

F. Increase employment share of Muslims, particularly where there is great deal of public dealing. Working out mechanisms to link madaras with higher secondary school board.

G. Open high quality Urdu medium schools wherever they are in demand and ensuring high quality textbooks for students in the Urdu language.

H. Improve participation and share of minorities, particularly Muslims, in business of regular commercial banks.