



Annual Report

2019-20

West Bengal Minorities' Commission

'Khadya Bhavan', Block – 'A', Ground Floor,
11A, Mirza Ghalib Street, Kolkata- 700 087

Table of Content

Content	Page No.
Preface	4
About the Commission	6
Sitting Members	7
Organizational Structure	8
Function of the Commission	9
Redressal of Complaints	10
Meetings Held	10
Success Stories	11
Study Visits	13
Synopsis of Study Visits	13
Pictorial View of Study Visits	14
Minorities' Rights Day	21
Pictorial View of Minorities' Rights Day	22

Preface

The need to create an organization like West Bengal Minorities' Commission was felt necessary as there are too many instances where Minorities' rights are being infringed or they are discriminated explicitly or implicitly on the basis of religion, caste, race, ethnicity, culture, etc. all over the world every day.

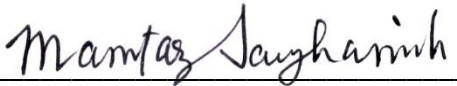
According to the instruction from Government of India to States, West Bengal Minorities' Commission was constituted in 1996 through a memorandum no. 84- P.M. dt.14/07/1994 by enactment of 'West Bengal Minorities' Commission Act 1996'.

This Commission acts as apex organization for redressal of discrimination towards Minorities of the State.

The Annual Report, containing a brief account of the functions of the Commission during the financial year 2019-20, has been finalised and approved in the 139th meeting of the Commission held on 27.11.2020. This Annual Report is, therefore, forwarded to the State Government and Hon'ble M.I.C. of Minority Affairs & Madrasah Education Department for kind perusal and consideration.

Dated: 27.11. 2020

Place: Khadya Bhavan, Block A, Ground Floor,
11A, Mirza Ghalib Street, Kolkata- 87



Chairperson,

West Bengal Minorities' Commission

About the Commission

- The West Bengal Minorities' Commission (W.B.M.C.) is a statutory body under Minority Affairs and Madrasah Education Department.
- The Commission was constituted through enactment of the West Bengal Minorities' Commission Act 1996.
- This body, while discharging functions enshrined u/s 4 of West Bengal Minorities' Commission Act 1996, also functions as apex body in the State of West Bengal for the redressal of grievances of Minorities.
- Six religious groups namely, Muslim, Christian, Buddhist, Parsee, Sikh and Jain enjoy the status of Religious Minority in our state.
- Apart from that, six linguistic groups namely, Urdu, Hindi, Nepali, Odiya, Gurumukhi and Santhali are recognised as Linguistic Minorities under West Bengal Minorities' Commission Act 1996
- There are Chairman, Vice-Chairperson and 9 other members in the Commission.
- Out of 9 members, 6 members are from each religious community, 1 woman member and two open seats. Another 3 are ex-officio members – a) Member Secretary, West Bengal Minorities' Commission and b) Secretary, Minority Affairs & Madrasah Education Department & c) One nominated Representative from West Bengal Minority Development & Finance Corporation.
- The tenure of members is 3 years.
- Staff, recruited here, are permanent.

Sitting Members (As on 27.11.2020)

	Name	Designation	Address	Contact Details
1	Prof. (Dr.) Mamtaz Sanghamita Ex MP (Lok Sabha) (Since 10.11.2020)	Chairperson	26, Ratu Sarker Lane, Kolkata- 700 073	033 2235 7949 (R) 9830052604 (M) msanghamita@gmail.com
2	Jb. Abu Ayes Mondal (Ex MLA & Ex MP) Deceased on 06.11.2020	Ex- Chairman	Shrabani Abasan, Opp. Falguni Abasan, Main gate, Quarter No.7/2, ground floor, Flat No.2, FC Block, Salt Lake, Sector-III, Kolkata-700106	2252 0395 (O) 8900331223 (M)
3	Mr. Michael Shane Calvert (M.L.A.)	Vice Chairman	49, Sahid Dinesh Gupta Road, Jadu Colony, Behala,	9830048100(M) mscalvert21@gmail.com
4	Sri N.F.Tankariwala , Deceased on 05.09.2020	Ex-Member	5, Queens Park, Kolkata- 700 019	9830066858 (M) roshninosh@gmail.com
5	Shri Cyrus Jamshed Madan (Since 09.10.2020)	Member	Flat – 3B, 1-B, Gurusaday Road, P.S.- Karaia, Kolkata- 700 019	9831007484 cymadan@gmail.com
6	Sri Derek O' Brien , MP	Member	158, Prince Anwar Shah Road, Kol-45	9830008000 (M)
7	Sri Ashok Turakhia	Member	- Chandni Chowk Bazar, Shop No.162/163 (Main Gate) Block-D, Kolkata -700013. 7, Sarat Bose Road, Dwarka Bldg. Flat-3C, Near Minto Park, ICICI Bldg. Kolkata -700020	2215 8984(O) 9831172455 (M) 9874312455 (R) ashok72455@gmail.com hareshcal2@yahoo.co.in
8	Sri Bikash Barua	Member	B/62/H/1, Chetla Road, 2nd floor, Kolkata-700027	9339744430(M) bikashbarua.buddhist@gmail.com
9	Syed Marshood Ali Al-Quadri	Member	- S14/8 Srabani Abasan, Fourth Avenue, FC Block, Sector-III, Salt Lake City, Kolkata -700106. - Taltala, 30 Abdul Halim Lane, Kol-16	9836042113 (M) 9432291786 (M) syedmarshoodali@yahoo.co.in
10	Mr. Jaidul Islam Khan	Member	P.O. Panskura Railway Station, Dist. Purba Medinipur, Pin-721 152	9434203163 , 9733733631 (M) jayadulislamkhan@gmail.com
11	Shri Gurbux Singh	Member	41/1B, Jowtala Road, Flat No. 4E, Kolkata-700019	9830046756 (M) gurbux35@gmail.com
12	Syed Nasiruddin Ahamed (Ex-MLA)	Member	Mirabazar, P.O. Palashi, P.S. Kaliguj, Dist. Nadia	9836171710 (M) nasiruddinppnadia055@gmail.com
13	Mrs. Shehnaz Quadery	Member	Vill. & P.O. Kutubsahar, P.S. Gazole, Dist. Malda	2287 8180, 2835 0214 9831203198 (M) ysqsheh@hotmail.com
14	Principal Secretary/ Secretary Minority Affairs & Madrasah Education Department	Ex-Officio Member	Minority Affairs & Madrasah Education Department, 3 rd Floor, NABANNA, 325, Sarat Chatterjee Road, Howrah- 711102	2214 1924 (O), 2253 5091 (O) mame.wb@gmail.com
15	Shri Shakeel Ahmed , I.A.S. Member-Secretary & Ex-Officio Commissioner, Minority Affairs and Madrasah Education Department	Ex-Officio Member	Block-F, Flat No. 7, Lake Gardens, RHE., 48/4, Sultan Alam Road, Kolkata- 700033	2252 0393/94 (O) 2252 0399 (F) 9474093028 (M) shakeel220364@gmail.com

Organizational Structure

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Sanctioned Post	Existing Post	Vacant Post
1.	Member Secretary (in the Rank of Joint Secretary)	1	1	0
2.	Personal Assistant	3	2	1
3.	U. D. Assistant	2	1	1
4.	Typist	2	2	0
5.	Accountant	1	0	1
6.	L. D. Assistant	1	0	1
7.	Peon	4	2	2
	TOTAL	14	8	6

Function of the Commission

The Commission performs the following duties as described u/s 4 of West Bengal Minorities' Commission Act 1996:-

- a) Evaluate the progress of the development of Minorities of West Bengal and review implementation of the policies and programme of the State Government.
- b) Monitor the working of the safeguards provided in the Constitution and in laws enacted by Parliament or the State Government.
- c) Make recommendations for effective enforcement and implementation of safeguards for the protection of the minorities provided by the Central or State Government.
- d) Look into specific complaints regarding deprivation of social, economic, educational, cultural and linguistic rights and safeguards of the Minorities and take up such matters with the appropriate authorities.
- e) Recommend to the State Government to accord minority status to religious, linguistic and ethnic groups, who do not enjoy any constitutional or statutory benefits or status.
- f) Cause studies to be undertaken into problems arising out of any discrimination against minorities and recommend measures for their removal.
- g) Conduct studies, research and analysis on the issues relating to socio-economic and educational development of minorities.
- h) Make Annual Report to the State Government on any matter pertaining to any of the functions of the Commission.
- i) The Commission has the power of a civil court trying a suit while performing the functions under sub-section (1).
- j) The Commission shall, while investigating or enquiring into any complaints regarding violation or infringement of any rights of the Minority as guaranteed by the Constitution or as conferred by or under any Central Act or State Act, shall have all the powers of a civil court trying a suit under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, and in particular, in respect of the following matters:-
 - i. Summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person from any part of India, and examining him on oath
 - ii. Requiring the discovery and production of any document
 - iii. Receiving evidence on affidavits
 - iv. Requisitioning any public record or copy thereof from any court or office
 - v. Issuing commissions for the examination of witness and documents any other matter which may be prescribed

Redressal of Complaints

2018-19			2019-20		
No. of Complaints received.	No. of Complaints taken for Action.	No. of Complaints disposed.	No. of Complaints received.	No. of Complaints taken For Action.	No. of Complaints disposed of.
160	160	ALL	86	86	80

Meetings Held

1	Urgent Meeting	10.04.2019
2	131 st Meeting	29.05.2019
3	132 nd Meeting	16.07.2019
4	133 rd Meeting	16.08.2019
5	134 th Meeting	19.09.2019
6	135 th Meeting	05.11.2019
7	136 th Meeting	12.12.2019
8	137 th Meeting	24.01.2020
9	138 th Meeting	26.02.2020

Success Stories

The Commission receives complaints on a regular basis in the form of written letters submitted by hand or sent via post or e-mail and tries to provide redressal to those complaints as early and as effectively as possible. A few noteworthy cases for the Financial Year 2019-20 are stated below:-

Sl.	Petitioner	Complain	Action Taken	Outcome
1.	M.A. Qasim, General Secretary of Anjuman Taraqqi-E- Urdu Hind, 51/7, Cowies Ghat Road, Shibpur, Howrah – 711 102.	Commencement of Post Graduation in Urdu Language, Kazi Nazrul University	The Commission requested to the Vice-Chancellor, Kazi Nazrul University , Nazrul Road, Kalia Bypass More, P.O. – Kalia (C.H.) , P.S – Asansol, District – Burdwan.	The petitioner informed the Commission over phone that Urdu Department has started in the University.
2.	Surap Ali Mallick, Vill. + P.O. – Arit, P.S. – Daspur, District – Paschim Medinipur	Police officer Shankar Manna who was investigating the case of land property dispute of the petitioner , allegedly threatened the petitioner.	The Commission sought for a detailed report on the case from the S.P. Paschim Medinipur.	The Departmental proceeding has been initiated against the accused police officer and the petitioner is satisfied with that.
3.	Sk. Rabiul Islam , S/o – Late Nurul Islam, Vill. – Mirzabazar Idgamahalla, Ward No. 22. P.O. – Midnapore, P.S. – Kotwali, District – Paschim Medinipur, PIN – 721 101.	Misbehaviour by the Development officer (Handloom) Bankura.	The Commission sought for a detailed report on the case from the District Magistrate, Bankura.	The matter is amicably settled in the office chamber of Deputy Director of Textiles, Handloom, Bankura
4.	Md. Nabijan Ansari, Masjid Line, Moraghat Tea Garden, P.O. – Binnaiguri, Distict – Jalpaiguri, PIN – 735203.	Regarding NOC from Tea Garden Management for the construction of the Boundary wall of Graveyard.	The Commission sought for a detailed report on the case from the District Magistrate, Jalpaiguri.	The problem has been solved. The Tea Garden Management gave NOC for the construction of the Boundary wall of Graveyard.

Sl.	Petitioner	Complain	Action Taken	Outcome
5.	Md. Safiur Rahman, Moin Tailors & Brothers, Near DCM Building, Mohit Lane, District – Darjeeling.	Prayer for issuance of appointment letter from the list of 271 verified teachers by SSC, West Bengal.	The Commission sought for a detailed report on the case from the District Inspector of Schools (Secondary Education), GTA, District – Darjeeling, PIN – 734 101.	The petitioner informed the Commission that after persistent perusal from the Commission the office of D.I. of Schools Darjeeling has complied by issuing an appointment letter.
6.	Sk. Sabir Hossain, S/o – Hazi Sk. Nuruddin Ahmed, Vill. & P.O. – Bankra, P.S. – Domjur, District – Howrah, PIN – 711 403.	Prayer to solve land dispute	The Commission has sent the petition to the S.P. Howrah, (Rural) for solve the problem.	The S.P. Howrah (Rural) has sent the detailed report to this Commission and informed that the matter is of civil nature and he should approach before the competent authority and assured of all kinds of assistance if and when the petitioner requires.
7.	TIC, Cossipore Aman Junior High School, 96/H/50, Cossipore Road, Kolkata 700 002.	Up-gradation of Cossipore Aman Junior High School (Urdu Medium) to a Secondary School.	The Commission has sent the petition to the Director, Director of School Education Department, Bikash Bhavan, Salt Lake City, Kolkata – 700 091 to solve the problem.	The Deputy Director of School Education (J.H.) informed the Commission that the Cossipore Aman Junior High School had been upgraded to a Secondary School which has been transmitted to the school authority.
8.	Sk. Julfikar Ali, Sk. Mazhar Ali Wakf Estate, Vill. – Chakpaschim Itra, P.O. – Patanda, P.S. – Panskura, Dist. – Purba Medinipur.	Prayer to solve Wakf Property disputes.	The Commission has sent the petition to the S.P. Purba Medinipur to solve the problem of the petitioner.	The S.P. Purba Medinipur has sent the enquiry report, issued N.C.R. against the accused persons and instructed the Panskura PS to keep sharp vigil on the issue.

Study Visits

As per power conferred under section 4(1) of West Bengal Minorities' Commission Act 1996, the Commission conducts district study tours in order to (a) evaluate the progress of the development of minorities of West Bengal and review implementation of the policies and Programme of the State Government, (b) monitor the working of the safeguards provided in the Constitution and in laws enacted by Parliament or the State Legislature and (c) make recommendations for the effective enforcement and implementation of safeguards for the protection of the interests of minorities provided by the Central or State Government.

The Study visit team comprises of Hon'ble Chairman and/ or Vice Chairperson and other Hon'ble members of this Commission. Generally, the tour takes place in two sessions, namely a) Administrative meeting, and b) Field visit.

In the Administrative meeting, this Commission meets the entire District Administrative heads and Police Administration. The Commission enquires about the development of minorities and review implementation of different policies and Programme of the State Government in the District, listens to the difficulties faced by the District Administration and advises them accordingly.

Synopsis of Study Visits

1	Nadia	10.07.2019
2	Jhargram	18.07.2019
3	Birbhum	31.07.2019
4	Paschim Bardhaman	20.08.2019
5	Purba Bardhaman	21.08.2019
6	Purulia	05.09.2019
7	Bankura	06.09.2019
8	Darjeeling	25.09.2019
9	Kalimpong	26.09.2019
10	Howrah	22.10.2019
11	Kolkata	24.10.2019
12	Jalpaiguri	07.11.2019
13	Paschim Medinipur	10.12.2019
14	Purba Medinipur	31.12.2019
15	Hooghly	22.01.2020
16	Murshidabad	28.01.2020

Pictorial Views of Study Visits



Nadia 10.07.2019



Jhargram 18.07.2019



Birbhum 31.07.2019



Paschim Bardhaman 20.08.2019



Purba Bardhaman 21.08.2019



Purulia 05.09.2019



Bankura 06.09.2019



Kalimpong 26.09.2019



Howrah 22.10.2019



Kolkata 24.10.2019



Jalpaiguri 07.11.2019



Paschim Medinipur 10.12.2019



Purba Medinipur 31.12.2019



Hooghly 22.01.2020

Minorities' Rights Day

Date & Time:	Wednesday, the 18th of December, 2019 . At 2:00 p.m.
Venue:	Auditorium Hall, 4th Floor, Consumer Affairs Department, 'Khadya Bhavan', 11A, Mirza Ghalib Street, Kolkata – 700 087
Theme:	"Preserving Social and Cultural Life of Minorities"
Guests:	• Jb. Nadimul Haque, M.P. Rajya Sabha • Father Maloy D'Costa
Attendance:	Over Hundred people from different Minority Communities and press & electronic media were present on the occasion
Welcome of the audience	Mr. Shakeel Ahmed , I.A.S., Member Secretary, West Bengal Minorities' Commission
Introduction of the Guests:	Mr. MICHAEL SHANE CALVERT , Hon'ble Vice-Chairperson, W. B. Minorities' Commission. All the dignitaries were presented with Bouquet of flowers.
Inauguration of the Programme:	Hon'ble Chairman and other Dignitaries by lighting up the auspicious lamp
Introduction to the Theme:	Janab ABU AYES MONDAL , Hon'ble Chairman, W. B. Minorities' Commission.
Speech by Guests:	• Jb. Nadimul Haque, M.P. Rajya Sabha • Father Maloy D'Costa
Vote of Thanks:	Mrs. SHEHNAZ QUADERY , Hon'ble Member, West Bengal Minorities' Commission

Pictorial View of Minorities' Rights Day



Hon'ble Members and Guests on the Dias



SHAKEEL AHMED, I.A.S., Member Secretary, welcomed the audience and dignitaries



Mr. Michael Shane Calvert, M.L.A., Vice Chairman, introduced the Dignitaries to the audience



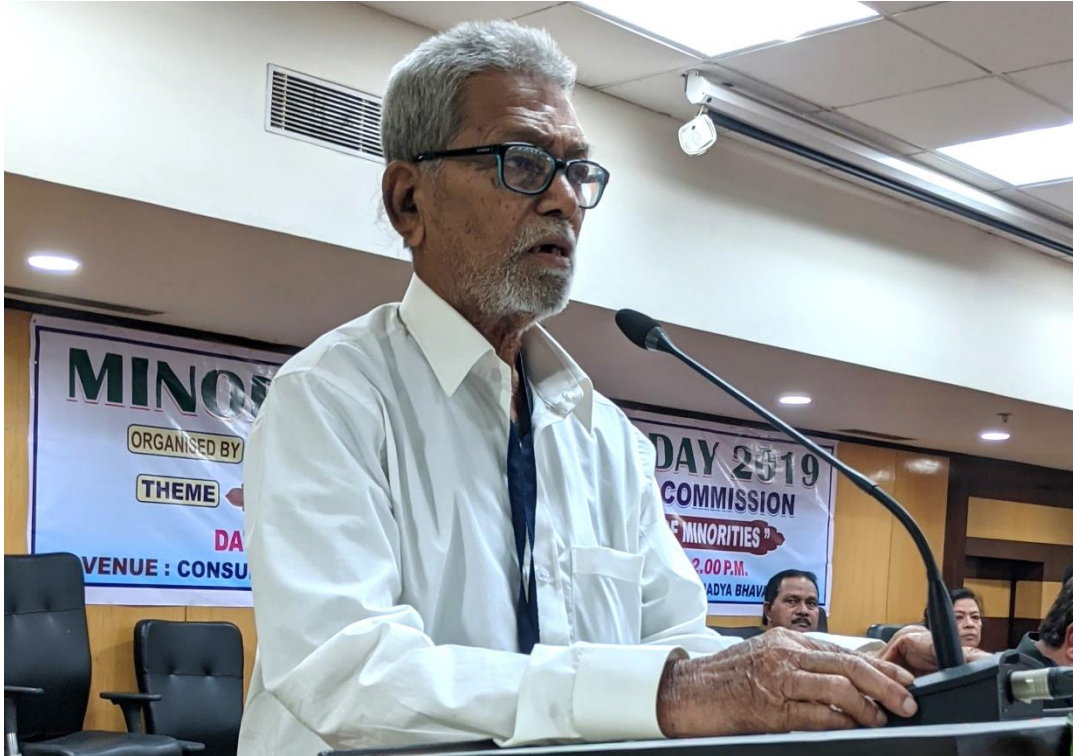
Father Malloy D'Cosata was welcomed by bouquet of Flower



Janab Nadimul Haque, M.P., Rajya Sabha, was welcomed by a bouquet of flower



The Programme was inaugurated by lighting up the auspicious lamp by Hon'ble Chairman and other dignitaries



Janab Abu Ayes Mondal, Hon'ble Chairman, West Bengal Minorities' Commission addressed the audience on the theme



Janab Nadimul Haque, M.P. Rajya Sabha, addressed the audience



People from different Minority Communities were present on the event as audience



Janab Aby Ayes Mondal, Chairman, West Bengal Minorities' Commission with Janab Nadimul Haque, MP on the Dias



Father Maloy D'Costa delivered his speech



Vote of thanks was given by Mrs. Shehnaz Quadery, Member, West Bengal Minorities' Commission