

## **Economic Condition of Muslims in India**

### **Why in news?**

\n\n

According NSSO labor force survey the economic condition of Muslims does not show any signs of improvement in India.

\n\n

### **What are the report findings of NSSO?**

\n\n

\n

- The NSSO's 68th round (2011-12) provides estimates of education levels and job market indicators across major religious communities in India.

\n

- The educational attainment of Muslims is the least among all these communities.

\n

- In urban areas, the number of male Muslim postgraduates is as low as 15 per 1,000.

\n

- This number is about four times lower than that of other communities, including Hindus, Christians and Sikhs.

\n

- The number of male graduates among Muslims is 71 per 1,000, less than even half the number of graduates (per 1,000) in other communities.

\n

- Similarly, the number of Muslims educated up to the secondary and higher secondary levels is 162 and 90 per 1,000 persons, respectively, again the least among all the communities.

\n

- The average per capita consumption expenditure (used as an indicator of income) among Muslims is just Rs. 32.66 per day, which is the least among all religious groups.

\n

\n\n

### **What are the concerns spotlighted by the report?**

\n\n

\n

- An analysis of the data on economic and educational indicators for various religious groups reveals that Muslims are facing a vicious circle of poverty.
- Poor achievement at higher levels of education is partly a reflection of similarly low levels of school education or of illiteracy.
- Around half the Muslim population over 15 years is either illiterate or has only primary or middle school education.
- Muslims have the lowest attendance rates and educational attainment especially in higher education, this can be explained by their income level and higher costs for post-secondary education.
- The signs of Indian Muslims being caught in a vicious circle of poverty are visible in terms of their low consumption expenditure and poor job market indicators, including LFPR, employment status, and worker population ratio.

\n\n

### **What measures needs to be taken?**

\n\n

\n

- The Central and State governments could take concerted steps to help Indian Muslims escape this vicious circle of poverty.
- One way to improve their situation is to provide a special incentive and subsidy system for higher education.
- That will ensure that school going students continue to higher levels of schooling and higher education.
- Similarly, students who don't wish to continue in general academic education must have access to vocational education from Class 9 onwards.

\n

\n\n

**Source: The Hindu**

\n



**SHANKAR**  
**IAS PARLIAMENT**  
*Information is Empowering*