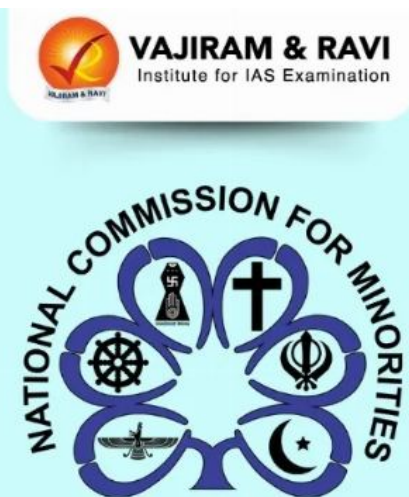


National Commission for Minorities (NCM)

July 19, 2026 • vajiramandravi.com



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National Commission for Minorities Latest News

Recently, the Centre appointed Harjit Singh Grewal as the Chairperson of the National Commission for Minorities (NCM).

About National Commission for Minorities

- It is a **statutory body** under the **Ministry of Minority Affairs**.
- **Origin**
 - In **January 1978**, the government set up the Minorities Commission to safeguard the interests of minorities.
 - With the enactment of the **National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992**, the Minorities Commission became a statutory body and was renamed as the National Commission for Minorities.
- NCM is responsible for **advising the central and state governments** on matters related to the **welfare and development of minority communities** in India.

- Initially, five religious communities-Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, and Zoroastrians (Parsis)-were notified as minority communities by the Union Government.
- Further, with the 2014 notification, Jains were also notified as another minority community.
- **Composition:** The Commission consists of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Five Members
- **Nomination:** The **Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and five Members** are 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.
- **Term:** Each Member holds **office for a period of three years** from the date of entering the office

Functions of the Commission

- **Evaluate the progress of the development** of minorities under the Union and states.
- **Monitor the working of the safeguards** for minorities provided in the **Constitution** and in laws enacted by Parliament and the state legislatures.
- **Make recommendations** for the effective implementation of safeguards for the protection of the interests of minorities by the central government or state governments.
- Look into specific complaints regarding deprivation of rights and safeguards of the minorities and take up such matters with the appropriate authorities.
- **Cause studies to** be undertaken into the problems arising out of any discrimination against minorities and recommend measures for their removal.
- **Conduct studies, research, and analysis** on the issues relating to the socio-economic and educational development of minorities.
- Suggest appropriate measures in **respect of any minority to be undertaken** by the central government or state government.
- Make periodical or special reports to the central government on any matter pertaining to minorities and, in particular, difficulties confronted by them.
- Any other matter which may be referred to by the central government.

Source: TH

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