

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 716
ANSWERED ON 08.02.2023

SCRAPPING OF MANF

716. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB:
SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has discontinued Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) for minority students from 6 notified minority classes viz Muslims, Buddhist, Jain, Sikh, Parsi and Christians from 2022-23;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of the reasons placed on records for initiating this scholarship during earlier Government?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (c): The Government has implemented various schemes for the welfare and upliftment of every strata, including minorities, especially the economically weaker and lesser privileged sections of the society, through various schemes of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Ministry of Textiles, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Women and Child Development and Ministry of Rural Development.

Ministry of Minority Affairs has specifically implemented various welfare schemes, including various Scholarship schemes, across the country for socio-economic and educational empowerment of the notified minority communities.

It has been observed that Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) Scheme of UGC and CSIR is open for students of all categories. Besides, students from minority communities are also covered under National Fellowship Schemes for Scheduled Castes and OBCs implemented by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and National Fellowship Scheme for Scheduled Tribes implemented by Ministry of Tribal Affairs. As the Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) Scheme overlaps with various fellowship schemes for higher education, the Government has decided to discontinue the MANF Scheme from 2022-23.
