

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1713
ANSWERED ON 03.08.2026

MINORITY SCHOLARSHIPS AND OUTREACH

1713. SMT. GEETA ALIAS CHANDRAPRABHA

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the national disbursement of scholarships under Nai Udaan and Maulana Azad Fellowship schemes;
- (b) the outreach efforts and number of beneficiaries in the State of Uttar Pradesh under these schemes, including steps to increase awareness and application rates among minority students; and
- (c) the measures taken to simplify application processes and raise awareness in rural areas of Auraiya?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Minority Affairs implemented both Nai Udaan and Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) Scheme to provide financial support to candidates from the six notified minority communities, viz., Buddhists, Christians, Jains, Muslims, Parsis and Sikhs. Under the Nai Udaan Scheme financial support was provided to candidates from the six notified minority communities, whose total annual family income from all sources did not exceed Rs. 8.00 lakh per annum and if the candidates clear the preliminary examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission/Staff Selection Commission or the State Public Service Commissions.

Similarly, under the MANF Scheme fellowships upto five year in the form of financial assistance was provided to students from the six notified minority communities to pursue M. Phil and Ph.D. Both schemes have been discontinued from the financial year 2022-23 onwards. However, existing MANF Fellows continue to receive fellowship benefits till completion of their fellowship tenure, subject to the extant guidelines of the Scheme.

A total of 9336 minority youth were provided financial support under Nai Udaan scheme, since its inception in 2014-15 and till 2021-22. However, state-wise data was not maintained under the scheme. As per the data available on the Scholarship and Fellowship Management Portal (SFMP) operated by Canara Bank, the number of beneficiaries under the MANF Scheme during the last three financial years in the State of Uttar Pradesh is as under:

Year	Candidates
2023-2024	300
2024-2025	235
2025-2026	145
