

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 914
ANSWERED ON 27.07.2026

**REDUCTION IN MINORITY SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES AND NON-PAYMENT OF
RENEWED STIPEND**

914. DR. SYED NASEER HUSSAIN:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- a. whether it is a fact that the Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) allocation was cut by approximately 16 percent in Budget 2026-27, from ₹42.84 crore in 2025-26 to ₹36.14 crore; and
- b. whether it is a fact that the Merit-cum-Means Scholarship for minority students has been reduced from ₹7.34 crore to a nominal ₹6 lakh in Budget 2026-27, and that the Scheme for Providing Education in Madrasas/Minorities received zero allocation?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(KIREN RIJU)

(a) to (b): Due to discontinuation of Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) Scheme and non-operation of Merit-cum-Means scholarship scheme beyond 2022-2023, the budget allocation of the Ministry under these schemes has been rationalized. The Madrasas scheme has been discontinued from 2022-2023, hence no budget allocation has been made.
