

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1311**  
ANSWERED ON 09.02.2023

**FELLOWSHIPS TO BENEFICIARIES UNDER MANF SCHEME**

**1311. SHRI T.N. PRATHAPAN:**

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to repeal its decision to discontinue Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) Scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of fellowships distributed by the Government to the existing beneficiaries during the last five years and the current year;
- (d) the frequency of fund distribution under MANF scheme; and
- (e) the reasons for not distributing the fellowship/ scholarship funds for its beneficiaries on monthly basis?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS  
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b): 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 specifically implements various welfare schemes, including various Scholarship schemes, across the country for socio-economic and educational empowerment of the notified minority communities.

The Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India has been implementing the Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) Scheme on the lines of the JRF Scheme of UGC and CSIR. The UGC and CSIR Fellowship Schemes are open for candidates of all social categories and communities including minorities. Further, students from minority communities are also covered under National Fellowship Schemes for Scheduled Castes and OBCs implemented by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment. In view of the overlap among the aforesaid Schemes and possibilities of misuse and duplication, it has been decided to discontinue the MANF Scheme from 2022-23 onward. The existing MANF Fellows will continue to receive Fellowships till the end of their respective tenure, subject to compliance with the extant guidelines.

(c): During 2017-18 to 2021-22, 4,689 Fresh Fellowships, besides Renewal Fellowships, were distributed to the scholars of minority communities under the Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) Scheme (beneficiaries yet to be finalized against results of UGC/CSIR-NET-JRF December, 2021 examinations).

(d) & (e): Under the MANF Scheme, the funds are disbursed to the beneficiaries on monthly basis.

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