

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.827**  
ANSWERED ON 07.12.2023

**WITHDRAWAL OF SCHEMES FOR MINORITY STUDENTS**

827. SHRI S. VENKATESAN:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the schemes including scholarships meant for minority students which have been withdrawn/curtailed during the last five years;
- (b) whether the Government has made any study before such withdrawal/curtailment; and
- (c) whether the Government has made any study on adverse impact on minority welfare after such withdrawal/curtailment and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**  
THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS  
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a): The Government has been implementing various schemes for the welfare and upliftment of every strata, including minorities, especially the economically weaker and lesser privileged sections of the society, through different Ministries/Departments. 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.

The Government has discontinued or restricted the coverage under some of the schemes with effect from 2022-23 as either such schemes were having parallel counterpart schemes implemented by other Ministries or not in consonance with mainstream welfare Schemes. The Schemes which has been discontinued are (i) The coverage of classes I to VIII under the Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme; (ii) The Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF); (iii) Padho Pardesh Scheme; (iv) Nai Udaan and (v) Naya Savera.

(b) and (c): Cases of mis-targeting and irregularities in scholarship disbursement was brought to the notice and accordingly Ministry entrusted National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) to conduct Impact Evaluation Study and Physical Verification of Institutes and applicants. The findings of the Study indicated gross irregularities with instances where benefit of scholarship scheme is not reaching to the targeted beneficiaries.

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