

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1108**  
ANSWERED ON 08.02.2024

**MAULANA AZAD FELLOWSHIP**

1108. DR. T. SUMATHY (a) THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is true that around 1900 beneficiaries in 27 universities across the country are awaiting their Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) stipends during the last three months and a revision of fellowship amount during the last six months and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has continued the MANF stipend and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which it would be continued?

**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 different Ministries. Ministry of Minority Affairs has specifically implemented various schemes, including Pre-Matric, Post Matric and Merit-cum-Means Scholarship schemes, across the country for socio-economic and educational empowerment of the six notified minority communities.

The Scheme of Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) has been discontinued with effect from 2022-23. The existing MANF Fellows will continue to receive Fellowships, only through Aadhaar Payment Bridge System, till the end of their respective tenure, subject to compliance with the extant guidelines. The scheme guideline provides that rate of fellowship will be at par with the rate revised by UGC. Accordingly, the Ministry has revised the rate of fellowship under MANF Scheme. The MANF scheme is being implemented by National Minority Development Finance Corporation, a Public Sector Undertaking, under the Ministry of Minority Affairs, and NMDFC has been directed to disburse the fellowship amount.

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