

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1599
ANSWERED ON 31/07/2024

MAULANA AZAD NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

1599 ADV. CHANDRA SHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) has been discontinued by the Government;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has evaluated the effectiveness and impact of MANF in promoting higher education among minority students, influencing the decision to discontinue it; and
- (d) If not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Minority Affairs implements various schemes for educational and socio-economic empowerment of the six (6) centrally 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. In addition to this, students from minority communities are also covered under the Fellowship Schemes being implemented by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs for Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes and Scheduled Tribes. In view of the apparent overlap among the aforesaid Schemes, 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.
