

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3075
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2014
ALLEGED MISAPPROPRIATION OF FUNDS BY MAEF
Noor Smt. Mausam

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of allegations of financial misconduct, misappropriation of funds by the Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF);
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to enquire into the alleged irregularities;
- (c) whether the Ministry has appointed a sub-committee to look into the allegations of financial indiscipline and the expenditure incurred by the foundation for the repair & renovation of MAEF campus;
- (d) if so, the findings and outcomes of the sub-committee;
- (e) whether the Maulana Azad Education Foundation limited its activities and objectives to just distributing scholarships and grants for construction of hostel and school buildings; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures taken/being taken by the Government thereon particularly to ensure transparency and equity of spending funds?

Answer

MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (DR. NAJMA A. HEPTULLA)

(a) to (d) The matter relating to financial misconduct and misappropriation of funds by former Secretary, Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF) for repairs and renovation of MAEF campus was brought to the notice of this Ministry. It was decided to get physical verification / assessment of the repair and renovation work done on MAEF campus by National Buildings Construction Corporation (NBCC), a PSU of the Ministry of Urban Development. Further, in its 87th meeting, the Governing Council of MAEF held on 26th February, 2014 discussed the matter and decided to appoint a Sub Committee to inquire into the mode of withdrawal as well as expenditure involved in the total work of repair and renovation during last one year.

The Sub Committee of MAEF, vide its report submitted the following conclusions:

"Two meetings were held by the Sub-Committee to enquire into the expenditure incurred by the Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF) for repair and renovation for MAEF Campus. From whatever the reply and documents submitted to the Sub-Committee and the explanation personally given by the Secretary MAEF, it is clear that not a single legally required procedure has been followed by him while undertaking the repair and renovation work by the Secretary, MAEF. It is further clear that the proper accounting procedure in this case has not also been followed. Hence it is a case of gross negligence on the part of Secretary, MAEF. From the report of NBCC dated 27-03-2014, which was brought to our notice also, it is clear that amount spent is almost twice the actual required as pointed out by the NBCC"

The former Secretary, MAEF has since been repatriated to his parent cadre. Further, the matter has been referred to the Central Vigilance Commission for advice on initiation of disciplinary proceedings against him.

(e) & (f) Yes, MAEF is implementing two schemes for the educational development of minorities viz, (i) Grant-in-aid to NGOs and ii) Scholarship to meritorious girl students so far. However, MAEF has recently introduced a new scheme for Establishment of Higher Secondary schools. In its first step, Khwaja Gharib Nawaz Higher Secondary School would be established at Ajmer (Rajasthan) in collaboration with Dargah Committee, Ajmer.

MAEF is also implementing the Maulana Azad Sehat Scheme which has recently been launched by this Ministry. Under this Scheme, health facilities would be provided to students studying in institutions assisted by MAEF.

Apart from the above, initiatives for providing financial assistance for establishment of Universities, Begum Amina Abbas Tayyabji Scholarship and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Award for Excellence in Education, establishment of Polytechnics, VTC/ITI, for educational empowerment and skill upgradation of minorities are in the pipeline.