

- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the action being taken to do the required research work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (d) To run schemes for welfare of minority communities, the Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF) has been provided with a corpus fund. The Foundation is implementing all its welfare schemes out of the interest earned on its Corpus Fund. No amount has been earmarked for research work in MAEF.

Since its inception and up to 31st October, 2010, the MAEF has sanctioned Rs. 130.67 crores to 998 NGOs throughout the country for construction/expansion of schools/colleges/girls hostels/polytechnics/ITI and purchase of equipment/machinery/furniture and has distributed scholarships to 41977 girl students amounting to Rs.48.20 crores.

Strengthening of State Wakf Boards

3655. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has launched a new scheme for strengthening of State Wakf Boards;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the Scheme; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken by Government to improve the performance of State Wakf Boards, whose conditions are at present very poor and weak?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) The Government has launched a scheme for computerization of the records of the State Waqf Boards in December, 2009 under which grant-in-aid assistance is being provided to various Waqf Boards. Rs. 5.42 crores have been released to 20 State/Union Territory Waqf Boards till 31st October, 2010.

Welfare of Muslims

†3656. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.