

Media Coordinator's Office
Jamia Millia Islamia

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Press Release

100% results in bridge course run by JMI for *madarsa* and school drop-outs

All 132 school drop-outs and *madarsa* background students trained at Jamia Millia Islamia's Senior Secondary School under 'Nai Manzil' scheme of Central Government successfully completed their XIIth Board certification after being given an intensive 9-months teaching and training under the "Bridge Course".

The successful candidates comprising 50% girls assembled to participate in the 2nd Annual day celebration of the course. This is the third consecutive year of the implementation of the Nai Manzil scheme by Ministry of Minority Affairs through the Maulana Azad Education Foundation at Jamia Senior Secondary School (JSSS).

Prof Talat Ahmad, Vice Chancellor-JMI who was the Chief Guest on the occasion said that elated by the success of the students who have been mainstreamed in higher education through the bridge course, the Ministry has progressively increased the number of seats from 100 in 2015-16 to 260 this year.

Thanking the Ministry for its support, Prof Ahmad assured it that the course will not only put on track the careers of students undertaking the bridge course but also take the minorities and marginalised communities forward. JMI is committed to helping those school and *madarsa* background students who were not able to complete their school leaving certification for various reasons.

Rizwanur Rahman, Secretary Maulana Azad Education Foundation, the guest of honour on the occasion said that the Ministry is concerned about the dropouts in schools and madarsas. To address this problem, he said, teachers in madarsas will be trained to counsel students to continue with their studies. Another thrust area will be that of imparting skills and setting up of community colleges for vocational training of such students.

Dr Muzaffar Hassan, Principal, JSSS and Coordinator of the Bridge course said that under the scheme the students are given free enrolment, education and textbooks. They are also given a monthly stipend and are reimbursed for food and education costs incurred in the 9-month course. This makes the course very attractive.

Of the 132 students enrolled in 2016-17 for 9 months, many have got admissions in undergraduate programmes in JMI and other Central and State universities and some others have found employment in government and other sectors, Dr Hassan said adding that 100% success rate of the students at the Jamia School Board has boosted the morale of the teachers of the bridge course.

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