

Press Release

JMI Registrar Prof. Md. Mahtab Alam Rizvi Awarded ICSSR Major Research Project on Pasmanda Muslims and National Integration in Viksit Bharat; study to highlight their historical and cultural connections with broader civilizational traditions of Bharat

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Registrar of Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), Prof. Md. Mahtab Alam Rizvi, has been awarded a prestigious Major Research Project on Pasmanda Muslims and their role in national integration in the vision of Viksit Bharat by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR).

The research examines the historical background, cultural roots, linguistic foundations, and socio-political realities of Pasmanda Muslims, a large but historically understudied section of India's Muslim population. Pasmanda Muslims are estimated to constitute nearly 80–85 percent of the Muslim population in India, yet their social conditions and contributions to the country's cultural and social fabric have often received limited academic attention.

The project seeks to highlight the deep historical and cultural connections between Pasmanda communities and the broader civilizational traditions of Bharat. It explores similarities with different communities in India in customs, rituals, everyday traditions, linguistic practices, and occupational roles. By doing so, the research challenges the widely prevalent perception of Muslims as a monolithic bloc and instead brings attention to the diversity and indigenous roots within Indian Muslim society.

The research will examine how contemporary government initiatives and development-oriented policies aimed at benefiting all households, irrespective of religious or caste identities have impacted Pasmanda communities in recent years.

The study will also explore how recognizing the shared cultural and historical roots of Pasmanda Muslims with other backward and marginalized communities in India can contribute to greater social harmony. By highlighting their socio-cultural linkages and developmental aspirations, the research aims to examine pathways for strengthening national integration and communal harmony in Bharat.

The award of this project reflects the growing importance of research on inclusive development, social justice, and national integration in the context of India's evolving socio-political landscape. It is also seen as a major academic achievement for JMI, reinforcing the university's commitment to research that addresses key societal challenges and contributes to the broader vision of Viksit Bharat.

Prof. Mazhar Asif, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, JMI also congratulated Prof. Md. Mahtab Alam Rizvi for securing the major project on this very important area of research.

Prof. Md. Mahtab Alam Rizvi thanked the ICSSR for the project grant and said that he was looking forward to making a significant research contribution to this key area of contemporary socio-political study in India.

Prof Saima Saeed
Chief Public Relations Officer, JMI



Prof. Md. Mahtab Alam Rizvi
Registrar, Jamia Millia Islamia