

NEWS LETTER

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AEEDU is a non-profit organization, registered under Societies Registration Act 1860. It has been formed by a group of eminent persons from different fields who have achieved noteworthy positions in their respective spheres of Education, Culture, Administration, and Business, with a common Endeavour towards fostering education and its betterment leading towards appropriate vocational fulfillment.

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AEEDU Organizes an Interactive Session on Atal Tinkering Labs to Foster Innovation in Schools

New Delhi: An interactive session focused on Atal Tinkering Labs, a scheme designed to foster and develop science and technology in schools, was held at the AEEDU office on Saturday, July 20, 2024. The scheme is supported by NITI Aayog and provides funding up to Rs 20 lakhs, aiming to equip schools with the latest scientific laboratories, thereby promoting innovative learning among students.

The keynote speaker for the session was Dr. Kavita Sharma, an eminent educationist, and former President of the South Asian University. It was attended by school principals and teachers from the minority community, along with AEEDU officials including Syed Mahmood Akhter, CEO, AEEDU, Professor B. S. Butola, Research Incharge, Mr. Mohamad Umair, Project Officer; and Mr. Juned Ahmed. Janab Shahid Siddiqui, General Secretary, AEEDU, also graced the event.

At the outset, participants briefly introduced themselves. Dr. Kavita Sharma initiated her discussion by highlighting common problems faced by students in schools. She shared her personal and professional experiences in education with the participants. She emphasized on the importance of innovative learning based on group projects, advocating for collective efforts in educational projects. She also underscored the role of communication skills in students' overall development.



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She encouraged principals and teachers to identify and solve common student issues, fostering an environment of innovative learning. Subsequently, Dr. Kavita Sharm shed a detailed light on the benefits of Atal Tinkering Labs, explaining how these labs can provide marginalized students with access to the most recent scientific equipment that their schools might be unable to afford. She replied to numerous queries from teachers, clarifying various aspects of the scheme.

At last, Dr. Sharma interacted with students and explored their educational interests and ambitions. The students shared their innovative approaches and aspirations, which were appreciated by Dr. Sharma. She motivated the students to pursue their goals with renewed enthusiasm.

The session concluded with Syed Mahmood Akhter, CEO of AEEDU, expressing his thanks to Dr. Kavita Sharma, principals, teachers, and students. AEEDU's efforts in this direction were appreciated by the participants.

Virtual Meeting between AEEDU Founders and Mr. Sabeer Bhatia to Discuss the Future of Education in India

New Delhi: A virtual meeting was held between the Founders of AEEDU and Mr. Sabeer Bhatia, along with his team, on Tuesday, July 23, 2024, to discuss the future of education in India. The participants included Dr. K. Rahman Khan, Dr. S. Y. Quraishi, Lt. Gen. Zameer Uddin Shah, Mr. Shahid Siddiqui, Mr. P. Kanga, and Mr. Syed Mahmood Akhter, alongside Mr. Sabeer Bhatia and Mr. Javed Yunus.

Mr. Sabeer Bhatia opened the discussion by underscoring the urgent need for transformation in India's education sector.



He highlighted the impact of the internet revolution and the critical role of innovation, driven by strong foundations in critical thinking.

Mr. Bhatia emphasized on the introduction of critical thinking through ShowReel, an application co-founded by him and Mr. Javed Yunus. The platform offers an Entrepreneurship Management Programme, recognized as equivalent to 6 credits at Jamia Millia Islamia for students who complete the course. Comprising 20 AI-generated short videos, the course covers various facets of entrepreneurship and will be offered free.

Dr. S. Y. Quraishi suggested prioritizing critical thinking for teachers over students, proposing that a nominal fee could be introduced to underscore the course's value. In response, Mr. Bhatia clarified that the course is not limited to students but is also designed for teachers. While the course and its certification by ShowReel are free, earning credit scores, such as those from Jamia, would incur charges.

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Mr. P. Kanga, pointed out that this initiative is just the beginning, with plans to introduce additional courses on the app over time. Mr. Bhatia added that all certificates would be securely stored on a blockchain, ensuring their easy retrieval. To incentivize participation, he mentioned a \$100 reward for any teacher who enrolls all their students in the course.

Dr. K. Rahman Khan emphasized the importance of starting at the school level rather than focusing solely on universities and colleges. He proposed selecting a few schools to pilot the course. However, Mr. Bhatia insisted that the course should be accessible to everyone.

Lt. Gen. Zameer Uddin Shah acknowledged the challenges of introducing new ideas in traditional settings and recommended engaging with progressive universities, including Aligarh Muslim University. Mr. Bhatia welcomed this suggestion.

Mr. Shahid Siddiqui proposed that AEEDU should formalize this collaboration by signing an MOU with Mr. Bhatia. He also highlighted the potential for implementing the program in schools like DPS in Bangalore, promoted by Dr. Rahman Khan. A meeting in Bangalore and a potential program at Aligarh Muslim University were suggested for Mr. Bhatia's next visit to India. In response, Mr. Bhatia expressed his enthusiasm for signing an MOU with AEEDU and mentioned his upcoming visit to India at the end of August. He confirmed that Mr. Yunus would lead the MOU signing process with AEEDU.

AEEDU Delegation Meets Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) Sri Jayant Chaudhary to Discuss Schemes for the Upliftment of Minority Communities



New Delhi: A delegation of Alliance for Economic and Educational Development of the Underprivileged (AEEDU), including Lt. Gen. Zameer Uddin Shah, Dr. Najeeb Jung, Mr. Saeed Sherwani, Mr. Shahid Siddiqui, and Mr. Syed Mahmood Akhter, met with Shri Jayant Chawdhary, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Minister of State for Education, at Kaushal Bhawan, New Moti Bagh, on July 30, 2024. The meeting was also attended by Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, among others. At the outset, Hon'ble Minister Shri Jayant Chaudhary warmly welcomed the AEEDU delegates.

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The AEEDU founders initiated the discussion by focusing on the potential government support for AEEDU's stakeholders and members, including NGOs and educational institutions serving underprivileged children.

The delegation presented detailed document to the Hon'ble Minister, which included various suggestions for the development of minorities and underprivileged communities in India. The document also encompassed a comprehensive list of existing schemes of the government of India and highlighted AEEDU's initiatives focusing on uplifting these communities.

Former President of AEEDU, Lt. Gen. Zameer Uddin Shah, spoke about the Sir Syed Schools in Saharanpur and other districts, which he nurtured and which boast excellent educational facilities and results. Vice President Dr. Najeeb Jung addressed the educational requirements of underprivileged children from a national perspective. Mr. Shahid Siddiqui briefed the meeting on the status of madrasas and other schools in Western UP that cater to the needs of underprivileged Muslim students. In response, Hon'ble Minister Shri Jayant Choudhary expressed his concern about educational upliftment and skill development in areas like Moradabad and Meerut. Secretary Atul Kumar Tiwari endorsed this viewpoint and expressed hope that his Ministry could collaborate with NGOs and other stakeholders through the AEEDU platform. He suggested that modalities for such a partnership could be mutually worked out.

The Hon'ble Minister was informed by Jaanab Shahid Siddiqui about the Educational Event organized by AEEDU, with the keynote talk by Mr. Sabeer Bhatia. The Hon'ble Minister was keen to confer with Mr. Bhatia and take it further. AEEDU founders assured him to do so on the AEEDU platform.

The delegation further discussed about the potential for a partnership between AEEDU and the government to implement various schemes initiated by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and the Ministry of Education. The Discussion centered on enhancing education, skill development, and entrepreneurial opportunities for the underprivileged, particularly minority communities. Hon'ble Minister Shri Jayant Chaudhary acknowledged the importance of partnering with AEEDU and emphasized the significance of such collaboration for the upliftment of the underprivileged provided it falls under any of schemes.



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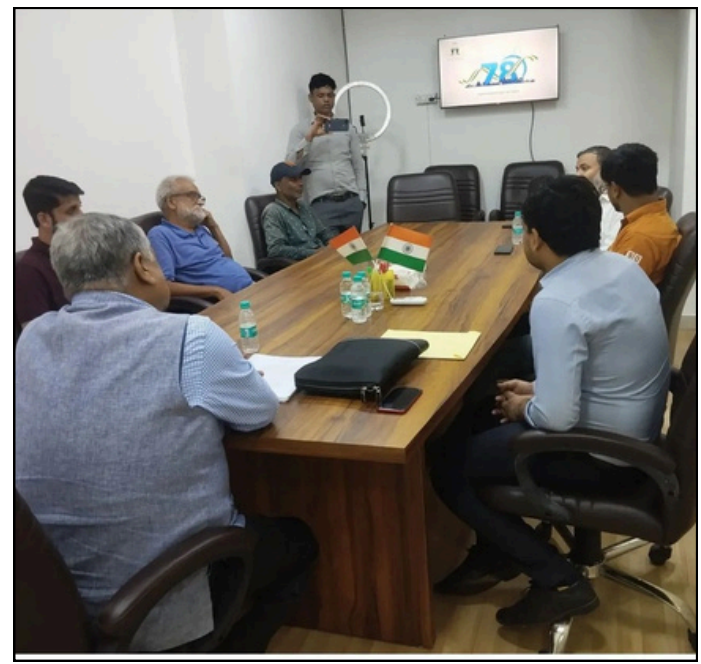


Syed Mahmood Akhter, informed the Hon'ble Minister about the Entrepreneurship Module developed by Dr. Asiya Chaudhary on behalf of AEEDU. The Hon'ble Minister expressed interest in the Module. He assured that the Government of India will extend all possible support to implement the Module provided it falls under any of the schemes.

Towards the end, the Hon'ble Minister entrusted the Secretary Shri Atul Kumar Tiwari to take the point of discussions to the next stage. The Secretary assured the Hon'ble Minister to work in consultation with the CEO of AEEDU in order to take it forward.

AEEDU Organises Special Session to celebrate Independence Day

New Delhi: Alliance for Economic and Educational Development of the Underprivileged (AEEDU) organized a special session on August 14, 2024 at its office to commemorate 78th Independence Day.



The session, chaired by Syed Mahmood Akhter, CEO of AEEDU, was attended by AEEDU Officials, including Prof. B. S. Butola, Mr. Mohammad Umair, and other stakeholders including Mr. Khurram Karim, Mr. Faiyyaz Hasan, and Mr. Hamza Hashmi among others individuals and well-wishers.



The session began with a reflection on the significance of India's independence, followed by discussions on how AEEDU continues to contribute to the nation's progress through its focus on educational and economic empowerment of underprivileged communities. Syed Mahmood Akhter emphasized AEEDU's unwavering commitment to its mission, highlighting the importance of education as a tool for social transformation.

Prof. B. S. Butola and other participants shared their thoughts on the responsibilities that come with freedom, underscoring the need to work collectively towards the betterment of society. Mr. Mohammad Umair spoke about AEEDU's role in shaping the future of education and skill development for marginalized sections of the society.

The session concluded with a strong sense of patriotism and a renewed dedication to AEEDU's objectives, reaffirming the organization's resolve to contribute meaningfully to India's journey toward inclusive growth.

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AEEDU Governing Body Meeting to review the progress and Discuss on Funding Opportunities

The Alliance for Economic and Educational Development of the Underprivileged (AEEDU) held its Governing Body meeting on Tuesday, September 3, 2024, via Zoom. Chaired by Dr. S. Y. Quraishi, the virtual session focused on recent activities, financial initiatives, and preparations for upcoming events. Attendees included prominent members such as Dr. K. Rahman Khan, Dr. Najeeb Jung, Lt. Gen. Zameer Uddin Shah, and other esteemed officials.

AEEDU CEO Syed Mahmood Akhter provided an update on the organization's recent activities. Key highlights included his visit to Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) and discussions with the Vice Chancellor regarding an upcoming Capacity-Building Program for school teachers. Inspired by the success of a previous online training session in March 2024, AMU will offer free accommodation and sponsored food for participants in an offline program. The CEO also highlighted the success of the Atal Tinkering Labs session held in July 2024 and noted AEEDU's meeting with Minister Shri Jayant Chaudhary, which opens doors for skill development and entrepreneurship projects.

During the meeting, the CEO informed members that AEEDU has successfully established a Corpus Fund in the State Bank of India. Despite positive developments, there is a need for additional funding to sustain operations. Dr. S. Y. Quraishi underscored the importance of building this corpus to Rs. 5 Crore to achieve financial independence. Encouraging news came from Hamdard Foundation, which expects to provide financial support by March 2025. Additionally, the CEO announced new monthly contributions from Mr. Ameer Ahmad and upcoming support from Captain Asraf Shaikh.

Ms. Huma Khalil proposed exploring opportunities with the Harish and Bina Shah Foundation for potential donations. One of the key agenda items was the discussion on AEEDU's Common Study Centers. CEO Akhter proposed allocating Rs. 10,000 per month for each center to support the education of economically weaker section (EWS) students in subjects like English, Math, and Science. The centers aim to bridge the gap for students who have gained admission to prestigious schools but lack adequate support at home. The collaboration with Mission Taleem, which assists over 5,000 students annually, was also discussed, with the possibility of expanding AEEDU's role in supporting EWS students.

The Governing Body was briefed on preparations for AEEDU's Annual General Meeting (AGM), tentatively scheduled for late September or early October 2024. CEO Akhter informed the members that the audit report is in progress and membership numbers have been finalized. The AGM will also mark the launch of two significant initiatives: a research report spearheaded by Prof. Butola and an entrepreneurship module developed by Dr. Asiya Chaudhary.

The meeting concluded with discussions about organizing AEEDU's Annual Educational Conference in mid-January 2025. Lt. Gen. Zameer Uddin Shah suggested Pune as the venue, with Inamdar Saheb's university as the host. The conference is expected to gather participants from across AEEDU's expanding network, highlighting its educational and skill development efforts.

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AEEDU Writes a Letter To UP CM Yogi Adityanath to Investigate Alleged Discrimination in Amroha School



New Delhi, September 7, 2024 – The Alliance for Economic and Educational Development of the Underprivileged (AEEDU) has urged Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath to launch an investigation into a disturbing incident reported from Amroha, where a school principal allegedly punished a class five student for carrying non-vegetarian food. The AEEDU, in a letter signed by prominent public figures, expressed concern over the "inappropriate comments" made by the principal and the expulsion of the child.

The letter, signed by former Union Minister Dr. K. Rahman Khan, ex-Chief Election Commissioner Dr. S. Y. Quraishi, and former Delhi Lieutenant Governor Dr. Najeeb Jung, described the incident as a violation of the "basic principle of equality for all enshrined in the constitution."

AEEDU noted that such actions not only undermine the constitutional rights of students but also "violate the ethical framework of providing education to the needy."

"We appreciate that the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi ji, and yourself have, on multiple occasions, encouraged the minority communities to make education their priority agenda," the letter stated, referring to the efforts made by the government in promoting education across all sections of society.

However, AEEDU stressed that the alleged behavior of the principal in Amroha stands in contrast to these efforts. "The video that is circulating has disturbed us all as it shows the principal making inappropriate comments unbecoming of a man holding the post," the letter added.

The organization, known for its advocacy of modern education and reforms for marginalized communities, requested Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath to "please get the matter investigated and take appropriate corrective action as per the law."

The letter was also co-signed by Lt. Gen Zameer Uddin Shah, former Deputy Chief of Army Staff and ex-Vice Chancellor of Aligah Muslim University, former MP Shahid Siddiqui, and Saeed Mustafa Shervani, Managing Director of the Shervani Group of Hotels. All emphasized the need for a prompt and fair investigation into the matter to uphold the principles of equality and justice in the educational system.

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AEEDU Celebrates Prophet Muhammad's Birth Anniversary, Highlighting the Role of Education

New Delhi: The Alliance for Economic and Educational Development of the Underprivileged (AEEDU) organized a special session on September 14, 2024 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) at its office in New Delhi. The event underscored the significance of education, drawing inspiration from the teachings of the Prophet, with the presence of key officials and community leaders.

The session was attended by AEEDU's CEO, Syed Mahmood Akhter, and Project Officer, Mohammad Umair, along with prominent stakeholders including Mr. Mufaddal Shakir from the Bohra Community and the Imam of

Dargah Hazrat Nizamuddin.

The gathering focused on promoting the educational principles advocated by the Prophet (PBUH), particularly for the upliftment of marginalized communities. The programme began with a recitation of verses from the Holy Quran, setting a reflective tone for the event. This was followed by an insightful speech that shed light on the life and legacy of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), emphasizing his message of compassion, knowledge, and social justice. In addition, poems extolling the Prophet's virtues were recited, highlighting his wisdom and the deep reverence he commands.

The session concluded with a heartfelt Dua (prayer), seeking blessings for humanity's welfare and AEEDU's continued success in its mission to empower underprivileged communities through education and economic development.

