

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR MINORITY
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS (NCMEI)**

Case No. 99 of 2020

In the matter of :-

**Don Bosco Academy, Civil Lines, Court Road, District Lalitpur,
Uttar Pradesh-284403**

..... **Petitioner**

V/s

- 1. Secretary, Room No. 19, 3rd Floor, Sachiv Bhawan, Uttar Pradesh Secretariat, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh**
- 2. Additional Chief Secretary, Govt. of UP, Higher Education & Secondary Education, Bahukhandi Secretariat, Lucknow, UP**
- 3. Secondary Education Department, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh**
- 4. Principal Secretary, Secondary Education Department, Babu Bhawan, 7th Floor, Lucknow-226001**

..... **Respondents**

Present: Mr. Jose Abraham, Advocate for the petitioner
 None for the respondent

ORDER

DATED 29.11.2022

Justice Narendra Kumar Jain, Chairman, NCMEI

1. This petition has been received on 24.12.2019 by hand through Mr. Jose Abraham, Advocate of the petitioner institution for grant of Minority Status Certificate (in short 'MSC') to Don Bosco Academy, Civil Lines, Court Road, District Lalitpur, Uttar Pradesh-284403.
2. Learned counsel for the petitioner filed an affidavit of Fr. Denis D'Souza, Secretary of Catholic Diocese of Jhansi Educational Society in support of the averments made in the petition and also to prove that the beneficiaries of the petitioner institution are members of the Christian minority community.
3. Learned counsel for the petitioner has filed copy of Unique ID No. : UP/2017/0154117 of the petitioner's Society as given by the Niti Aayog Portal NGO Darpan, copy of application dated 12.09.2019 sent to the State Competent Authority i.e. Secretary, Room No. 19, 3rd Floor, Sachiv Bhawan, Uttar Pradesh Secretariat, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh alongwith postal receipt and its tracking report, certified copy of Certificate of Registration of Catholic Diocese of Jhansi Educational Society, certified copy of Memorandum of Association alongwith list of founding members of the Society, certified copy of Amended

Memorandum of Association alongwith list of present members of the Society, notarized copy of recognition order dated 16.03.2018 District Basic Education Officer, Lalitpur to the unaided petitioner institution from 01.04.2018 to 31.03.2021 from Pre Primary to 8th Std. and resolution of the General Body of the Society in favour of Fr. Denis D'Souza, Secretary of Catholic Diocese of Jhansi Educational Society for obtaining MSC from this Commission.

4. As per the information supplied by the unaided petitioner institution with regard to students strength as on 01.06.2019, it is mentioned that out of the total 499 students, 187 students are from the Christian minority community, 15 students are from the Muslim minority community and 297 students are Hindus. It is relevant to mention here that out of total 17 teachers, 8 teachers are from Christian Minority community. Hon'ble Apex Court, various High Courts as well as this Commission in case of Buckley Primary School, Cuttack, Orissa Vs. Government of Orissa (order passed by this Commission in Case No. 1320 of 2009 dated 6.7.2010) have categorically held that the percentage of admission of students from notified minority community in a minority educational institution is not an indicia for determining the minority status of such institution.
5. It is stated in the petition that on dated 12.09.2019, the petitioner institution has applied to the State Competent Authority for grant of NOC which was received by the State Competent Authority on 16.09.2019 and the said application is still pending before the State Competent Authority. The State Competent Authority has not granted NOC in favour of the petitioner institution till now and also not rejected the said application and not communicated the same to the petitioner. After 90 days from the receipt of the application for grant of NOC, the petitioner has filed this application for grant of MSC to this Commission straightway as per the provisions of Section 10 and 11(f) of National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions (in short 'NCMEI') Act, 2004.
6. After service of registered notice dated 07.02.2020, 28.08.2020, 31.03.2021 and 27.12.2021, respondent has sent letter dated 25.01.2022 which was received in the Commission's Office on dated 02.02.2022, is taken into record. Thereafter in the facts and

circumstances of the case, Commission deemed fit and proper that physical inspection report alongwith recommendation may be obtained from the Committee constituted by this Commission for issuance of MSC to the petitioner institution vide order dated 06.04.2022, after service of letters, reminder / emails to the physical inspection committee dated 18.05.2022 and 03.08.2022, District Officer, Lalitpur has sent physical inspection report dated 11.07.2022 which was received in the Commission's Office on dated 18.07.2022 wherein they have not mentioned any adverse remarks to grant MSC to the petitioner institution.

7. Heard the Learned Counsel for the petitioner, perused the pleading of the parties, the documents filed by the petitioner and affidavit of Fr. Denis D'Souza, Secretary of Catholic Diocese of Jhansi Educational Society.
8. The petitioner institution has applied for grant of minority status certificate on the ground that the same has been established primarily for the benefit of the members of the Christian minority community and is being administered by Catholic Diocese of Jhansi Educational Society which is managed and run by the members of the Christian minority community. The aforesaid averments made in the petition find ample corroboration from the documentary evidence produced on behalf of the petitioner institution and the affidavit of Fr. Denis D'Souza, Secretary of Catholic Diocese of Jhansi Educational Society.
9. The Amended Memorandum of Association and all the documents produced by the petitioner institution clearly reflects that the beneficiaries of the petitioner institution are primarily the members of the Christian minority community. In addition, the said facts also stands proved from the documents and affidavit filed by the petitioner. There is no document on record to rebut the documentary evidence produced on behalf of the petitioner institution.
10. Relying on the said unrebutted evidence produced on behalf of the petitioner, we find and hold that Don Bosco Academy, Civil Lines, Court Road, District Lalitpur, Uttar Pradesh-284403 run by Catholic Diocese of Jhansi Educational Society is eligible for grant of minority status on religious basis. The evidence also proves that the said educational

institution was established with the main objective of sub-serving the interests of the Christian minority community.

11. Consequently, Don Bosco Academy, Civil Lines, Court Road, District Lalitpur, Uttar Pradesh-284403, which is from Pre Primary to 8th Std., is declared as an unaided minority educational institution covered under Article 30 of the Constitution of India within the meaning of Section 2(g) of the National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions Act, 2004 subject to the condition that the petitioner would file an affidavit or undertaking to the fact that the petitioner institution shall not deny admission of eligible candidate of the Christian minority community subject to the eligibility of the students and availability of the accommodation in the petitioner institution and updated affiliation / recognition order issued by the concerned authority to the petitioner institution. It is made clear that name of the society is Catholic Diocese of Jhansi Educational Society but we have granted MSC to Christian minority community not to the Catholic Christians. If the petitioner institution failed to comply the above order of this Commission within a period of three months from the date of order passed by this Commission then the petition filed by the petitioner for grant of MSC will be automatically deemed to be dismissed.
12. After compliance of the above order, a minority status certificate be issued accordingly.
13. In view of the above, the present petition is disposed of in accordance with this order.

Signed, pronounced and published on **Tuesday, 29th Day of November, 2022.**

JUSTICE NARENDRA KUMAR JAIN
CHAIRMAN

DR. JASPAL SINGH
MEMBER

DR. SHAHID AKHTER
MEMBER

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