



# ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY

Aligarh - 202 002, U.P., India.

**LT. GEN. ZAMEER UDDIN SHAH (RETD)**

Former Deputy Chief of Army Staff &  
Member, Armed Forces Tribunal

**Vice-Chancellor**

*PVSM, SM, VSM*

09 June 2013

## PAY BACK TIME : AMU ALUMNI WORLDWIDE

Dear Aligs and well wishers of this great seat of learning, Assalaamaleikum

1. I, take pride to address you as custodian of AMU. The University acknowledges your interest and devotion to your alma mater. I wish to inform you that we are progressing in increasing the number of courses offered and also making them responsive to the requirements of industry and the job market. We cannot however, increase the intake of students because AMU has limited residential facilities and is "bursting at the seams".
2. We require funding to improve the infrastructure facilities and developmental programmes being carried out. We may require additional funds to the tune of around INR 100 crore over a period of next five years. It is a misconception that government funding, alone, is adequate to meet our requirements for the following expansion and modernization programmes:-

- (a) We need additional funds for the construction of a boy's and girl's hostel and an additional foreign & NRI students hostel.

Residential accommodation for 6000 students is now occupied by 15000 students. This was necessitated by the fact that we wanted to educate as many students as possible at the cost of student comfort. Further, we have no facility to accommodate foreign & NRI students and are losing them to other universities, because of this constraint.

- (b) We need to construct new teaching block, with modern facilities such as smart class rooms, language labs, IT & Computing facilities etc.

The university has initiated new courses and programmes. In the coming academic session the university is proposing to establish a new faculty of "International Studies" with new courses ranging from strategic & security studies, disaster management, disarmament, conflict resolution & peace studies and foreign languages such as Chinese, French, German, Portuguese and Spanish.

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- (c) The market requires that our students be exposed to international academic standards. This can be achieved through exchange of faculty members and students to world class facilities at different labs and universities in India & outside. Our students are not from affluent families and need financial support for this purpose.
3. It is a fallacy to believe that government funding is adequate to fully support the improvement measures we need to implement. Another belief is that a large quantum of grants are surrendered as unutilized. The reality is that the government releases funds for salary of 100 percent authorization of teachers. We are understaffed and thus the surrendered funds are largely unutilized salary component, which cannot be diverted for other purposes.
  4. Our Old boys associations, abroad can make a substantial contribution by raising resources urgently needed by AMU. We are hopeful that our alumni will rise to the occasion. It is payback time.
  5. I request you all to come forward and help us. I am sure; you will be as generous as you always have been in our fund raising efforts for transforming AMU as an institution at par with the best in the country.
  6. I intend visiting USA and West Asia so that I can meet our alumni and other well wishers and obtain firm commitments from them.

Sincerely

(Lt. General Zameer Uddin Shah)  
Vice-Chancellor