

Curbs not to affect AMU centre, says Ahamed

Restrictions on executive powers of Vice-Chancellor



SITE VISIT: Union Minister of State for Human Resource Development E. Ahamed and Education Minister P.K. Abdu Rabb visiting the site of the Aligarh Muslim University special centre at Chelamala, near Perinthalmanna, in Malappuram district on Monday.

Staff Reporter

MALAPPURAM: Union Minister of State for Human Resource Development and External Affairs E. Ahamed has said that the restrictions imposed by his Ministry on the executive powers of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) Vice-Chancellor P.K. Abdul Azis will not affect the ongoing development of the university's special centre at Perinthalmanna.

Mr. Ahamed visited the site at Chelamala, where AMU is developing its Malappuram special centre campus, along with Minister for Education P.K. Abdu Rabb, university officials, and some leaders of the Indian Union Muslim League (IUML) on Monday afternoon.

Even when he evaded ques-

tions about the effect of the Union Ministry's order freezing the executive powers of the Vice-Chancellor, Mr. Ahamed sounded positive about the development of the Malappuram special centre.

"The work of the AMU special centre will be completed in stipulated time," he said. Mr. Ahamed assured that neither the Central nor the State government would go back on their commitment about the AMU special centre.

He said the concerns aired in the media about the future of the centres of Malappuram and Murshidabad following the freezing of the Vice-Chancellor's powers were "baseless."

A large number of people had criticised the Ministry of Human Resource Development for its circular dated

August 10 restraining the Vice-Chancellor from making any appointment or promotion, and taking any policy decision about the executive and academic functioning of the university until he demitted office on January 17, 2012.

The Centre's move had shocked the academic community across the country. However, Mr. Ahamed could not give any assurance whether the appointment of faculty could be made or further funds could be released for the ongoing construction of the centre.

The university authorities who accompanied the Minister were also confused.

Vice-Chancellor P.K. Abdul Azis, who led the university officials, was tight-lipped about the subject. He said he

was hopeful about the development of the special centre at Chelamala, a project with potential to change the educational future of a large number of people, particularly from the Muslim community.

Mr. Ahamed said the State and the Central governments would work in tandem for the development of the centre.

Manjalankuzhi Ali and T.A. Ahamed Kabeer, MLAs, accompanied the Ministers.

Mr. Ahamed interacted with Director P. Mohammed, and students and teachers of the centre. He said the proposed Rajya Rani Express between Thiruvananthapuram and Nilambur would start service within two months. He said the train was delayed because of shortage of coaches.