

# Reservation: Ahamed flays LDF Govt



EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

Kozhikode, Feb 23: Union Minister of State for External Affairs E. Ahamed, on Saturday, accused the LDF Government of taking double standard on the issue of reservation quota in the state. He was inaugurating the 'National Consultation on Sachar Report', organised by Muslim NGO Coordination Forum and Forum for Ideal Thoughts here on Saturday.

"The question raised here is that how a person from minority community can believe that the State Government would implement the recommendations of the Sachar

Committee in Kerala when the same government had filed an affidavit in the High Court against the minority reservations in education," he asked.

Ahamed, however, refused to react on the Paloli committee's recommendation on implementing the Sachar report. When asked about his views on the report, he replied that as he has not read the report completely yet, it is improper to comment on it.

Ahamed alleged that certain people in the State Government are trying to upset the reservation quota for the minorities and demanded the government should take action against them.

Talking about the recommendations

by the Sachar Commission, he said the Union Government is keen to implement the recommendations. As the initial step a baseline data on the minorities who are eligible for the reservation will be formed, he said. "Apart from that, the government has decided to expand the wings of Aligarh University to another five states, and Kerala will be one among them," he said.

Earlier, addressing the seminar, former Education Minister E.T. Muhammed Basheer said that community empowerment will be possible only through political empowerment in which Kerala is far ahead compared to other states. The

**Union Minister of State for External Affairs E. Ahamed in different moods while inaugurating the 'National Consultation on the Sachar report' on Saturday:**  
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judiciary has crossed the 'Lakshman rekha' by staying the reservation for minorities in higher education. "There must be an adequate representation of minorities in the judiciary too," he added.

Kamal Mitra Chenoy from JNU, Zakia Johar from Ahmedabad, Dr. Fazal Gafoor and Dr. M. Gangadharan spoke.