

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1454
ANSWERED ON 02.08.2023

Indian students pursuing higher education in foreign countries

1454 **Shri R. Girirajan:**

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the huge expenditure incurred by Indian students for pursuing higher education in foreign countries and if so the details thereof;
- (b) the total number of Indian Students pursuing higher education in foreign countries, country-wise;
- (c) whether Government has chalked out any comprehensive programme to cater to the needs of the students to pursue quality education in the country itself, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government has inked agreements with any research Institutions, IITs and NITs and with Industries to teach latest developments in science and technology, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

- (a): Ministry of Education does not maintain any data regarding the expenditure incurred by Indian students pursuing higher studies in foreign countries.
- (b): As per Ministry of External Affairs, there are approximately 1.3 million Indian students who are studying abroad in various courses for the year 2022. The estimated data of Indian students studying aboard country- wise is annexed.
- (c) to (d): Yes, Sir. As announced by Hon'ble Finance Minister in the Budget Proposal 2022-23, world-class foreign universities and institutions have been permitted in the GIFT City, Gujarat (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City) to offer courses in Financial Management, FinTech, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics free from domestic regulations, except those by International Financial Services Centers Authority (IFSCA) to facilitate availability of high-end human resources for financial services and technology.

University Grants Commission has also notified University Grants Commission (Academic Collaboration between Indian and Foreign Higher Educational Institutions to offer Twinning, Joint Degree and Dual Degree Programmes) Regulations, 2022 to facilitate international collaboration with Foreign Higher Educational Institutions.

World Class Institutions Scheme was launched in the year 2017 to enable higher educational institutions in the country to have affordable world class academic and research facilities. The regulatory framework of the scheme provides for identifying 10 institutions each from the public and private category to grant them the status of an 'Institution of Eminence' (IoE). So far, 12 institutions have been notified as 'Institutions of Eminence' (IoE) which include 08 institutions from the public category and 04 institutions from the private category. The 'Institutions of Eminence' (IoE) have been granted significant autonomy in administrative, academic and financial matters to achieve the objectives of the scheme. The public 'Institutions of Eminence' (IoE) are also provided financial assistance of up to Rs 1000 Crores, over a period of 5 years, to implement their plans for achieving the objectives of the scheme.

The Government is committed to not only retain the students passing out of the premier educational institutions in the country, but also provide attractive educational and research opportunities to Non-Resident Indians, within the country. Under the Prime Minister's Research Fellowship scheme, an attractive fellowship of maximum of Rs. 55 lakh per scholar (including annual research grant) in five years is offered to selected students to pursue their Ph. D. in Indian Universities/ Institutions so as to retain talent in the country. The Government has also sanctioned establishment of Research Parks at IITs- Madras, Bombay, Kharagpur, Kanpur, Delhi, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Gandhinagar and IISc Bangalore to augment the research ecosystem in the country.

Global Initiative for Academic Network (GIAN) has also been implemented which seeks to tap the talent pool of scientists and entrepreneurs from abroad, including those of Indian origin, to augment the country's existing academic resources.

The Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC), aims at improving the research ecosystem of India's higher educational institutions by facilitating academic and research collaborations between top ranked Indian Institutions and globally ranked foreign institutions, through joint research projects involving mobility of students and faculty.

Annexure referred to the reply of part (b) of the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1454 to be answered on 02.08.2023 asked by Shri. R. Girirajan, M.P.

Estimated Data of Indian students studying abroad (in 2022)

| S.No. | Name of Country | No. of Students |
|--------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. | Armenia | 8,015 |
| 2. | Australia | 1,00,009 |
| 3. | Austria | 350 |
| 4. | Azerbaijan | 119 |
| 5. | Bangladesh | 9,308 |
| 6. | Belarus | 793 |
| 7. | Belgium | 766 |
| 8. | Botswana | 200 |
| 9. | Brazil | 6 |
| 10. | Brunei Darussalam | 38 |
| 11. | Bulgaria | 357 |
| 12. | Canada | 1,83,310 |
| 13. | China | 6,436 |
| 14. | Cuba | 1 |
| 15. | Cyprus | 1,961 |
| 16. | Czech Republic | 1,500 |
| 17. | Denmark | 413 |
| 18. | Egypt | 400 |
| 19. | Estonia | 138 |
| 20. | Finland | 519 |
| 21. | France | 10,003 |
| 22. | Georgia | 14,000 |
| 23. | Germany | 34,864 |
| 24. | Greece | 48 |
| 25. | Guyana | 498 |
| 26. | Hong Kong | 815 |
| 27. | Hungary | 932 |
| 28. | Iceland | 16 |
| 29. | Indonesia | 1 |
| 30. | Iran | 2,050 |

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| 31. | Ireland | 5,000 |
| 32. | Israel | 1,218 |
| 33. | Italy | 5,897 |
| 34. | Japan | 1,302 |
| 35. | Kazakhstan | 3,855 |
| 36. | Kyrgyzstan | 14,500 |
| 37. | Latvia | 1,000 |
| 38. | Lithuania | 1,000 |
| 39. | Luxembourg | 2 |
| 40. | Malaysia | 3,331 |
| 41. | Malta | 450 |
| 42. | Mauritius | 147 |
| 43. | Mexico | 108 |
| 44. | Moldova | 705 |
| 45. | Nepal | 2300 |
| 46. | Netherlands | 3,200 |
| 47. | New Zealand | 2,664 |
| 48. | Norway | 480 |
| 49. | Oman | 39,550 |
| 50. | Panama | 191 |
| 51. | Philippines | 15,000 |
| 52. | Poland | 5,000 |
| 53. | Portugal | 19 |
| 54. | Qatar | 46,000 |
| 55. | Republic of Korea | 1,364 |
| 56. | Romania | 805 |
| 57. | Russia Federation | 18,039 |
| 58. | Saudi Arabia | 65,800 |
| 59. | Serbia | 5 |
| 60. | Singapore | 10,000 |
| 61. | Slovakia | 202 |
| 62. | Slovenia | 36 |
| 63. | South Africa | 335 |
| 64. | Spain | 1383 |
| 65. | Sri Lanka | 68 |

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| 66. | Sudan | 3 |
| 67. | Sweden | 2,500 |
| 68. | Switzerland | 3,980 |
| 69. | Taiwan | 2,239 |
| 70. | Tajikistan | 1,250 |
| 71. | Thailand | 364 |
| 72. | Turkey | 193 |
| 73. | United Arab Emirates | 1,64,000 |
| 74. | United Kingdom | 55,465 |
| 75. | USA | 4,65,791 |
| 76. | Uzbekistan | 250 |
| 77. | Venezuela | 93 |
| 78. | Vietnam | 4 |
| | Total | 13,24,954 |
