

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.678
ANSWERED ON 26.07.2023

Research and Development in Higher Education

678. SHRI AYODHYA RAMI REDDY ALLA:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Ministry towards strategic focus and vision for our institutions on Research and Development activities;
- (b) whether there are specific mechanisms in place to foster collaboration between our institution and external stakeholders, such as industry partners, Government agencies or non-profit organizations; and
- (c) whether initiatives or programmes are in place to promote the dissemination of research findings through publications, conferences and other knowledge-sharing platforms?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) For promotion and enhancement of research and development activities, various pan India schemes are implemented by the Ministry of Education through bodies such as the University Grants Commission (UGC) and All India Council for Technical education (AICTE). The UGC and AICTE also issue guidelines regarding the same. These inter alia include the following:

- UGC has developed guidelines for establishment of research and development cell in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) with a vision to put in place a robust mechanism for developing and strengthening research ecosystem within HEIs.
- UGC has introduced guidelines for higher education institutions to offer internship/ apprenticeship embedded degree programme. These guidelines will enable the apprenticeship embedded degree programme in general stream in a zero-budget framework, with co-operation of all stakeholders in industry and academia.
- In order to enable HEIs to engage industry experts and professionals as guest faculty, UGC has developed guidelines for engaging Professors of Practice in universities and colleges.
- UGC has set up a Consortium for Academic and Research Ethics (CARE) to identify, continuously monitor and maintain 'UGC-CARE Reference List of Quality Journals' across disciplines (popularly known as 'UGC-CARE List'). UGC-CARE List is available at the UGC-CARE website (<https://ugccare.unipune.ac.in/apps1/home/index>), with useful resources as relevant publications, audio-visual materials, videos, web links etc. UGC-CARE website also provides FAQs, Feedback and grievance redressal mechanism.

- Under the AICTE Professional Development Fund (earlier Travel Grant), there is a provision for the faculty members to attend conference, seminar in domestic or international platform for the purpose of dissemination of research findings etc.
- The National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NMEICT) scheme of the Ministry of Education have components such as e-SodhSindhu, SodhSuddhi and Indian Research Information Network System (IRINS) to support research.
- Under the e-ShodhSindhu component, current as well as archival access to more than 10,000 peer-reviewed and core journals and a number of bibliographic, citation and factual databases in different disciplines from a large number of publishers and aggregators is provided to centrally-funded technical institutions, universities and colleges which are members of the consortia.
- Under SodhSuddhi component, to promote and enhance academic integrity among researchers, free access to a web-based Plagiarism Detection Software is provided to various universities.
- The Indian Research Information Network System (IRINS) has been developed by the Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) Centre. The portal facilitates the academic, research and development organisations, faculty and scientists to collect, curate and showcase the scholarly communication activities and provide an opportunity to create the scholarly network. The IRINS is available as free software-as-service to the academic and R&D organisations in India.
