

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3542
ANSWERED ON 02.04.2025**

Collaboration with EU in Higher Education & Research

3542 Dr. Medha Vishram Kulkarni:

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

- (a) whether India is collaborating with EU nations to enhance higher education exchanges and research collaborations, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of joint initiatives with European Universities under programs like Erasmus+ and Horizon Europe;
- (c) whether any new agreements have been signed to promote student mobility, faculty exchange and joint PhD programs; and
- (d) the impact of these initiatives on India's academic institutions and research ecosystem?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)**

(a) to (d): The National Education Policy 2020 (NEP) was framed and approved by the Government of India to transform and improve the quality of education in the country. One of the key aspects of NEP 2020 is "Internationalisation of Education", which aims to promote and share best academic & research practices through interactions among diverse education systems.

In alignment with the vision of NEP 2020, University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued "UGC (Setting up and Operation of Campuses of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions in India) Regulations 2023" to facilitate the establishment of branch campuses of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions (FHEIs) in India. UGC has also issued "UGC (Academic Collaboration between Indian and Foreign Higher Educational Institutions to offer Twinning, Joint Degree and Dual Degree Programmes) Regulations, 2022", which allows students to do parts of their programmes from both Indian and foreign universities leading to academic and research excellence, as well as mobility of students and faculty.

India promotes educational collaboration with several countries including European Union to enhance education exchange and research partnership. India and EU collaboration has been further reaffirmed during 14th meeting of the India-EU Joint Steering Committee on Science and Technology Cooperation, held in Brussels on 25th September 2024.

Further Ministry of Education and Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship hosted a high-level EU delegation led by Ms. Roxana Minzatu, Executive Vice President, EU on 28th February 2025. The deliberations were focused on partnerships for student and faculty mobility, framework for Mutual Recognition of Qualifications, Collaboration between higher education institutions in India and EU, Strengthening digital and AI-based learning collaboration, Skill development, vocational education and workforce mobility.

India has participated in 88 collaborative projects under Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe, with a combined funding volume of approximately EUR 452 million.

To facilitate of mobility of students, academics, and researchers, Ministry of External Affairs has signed “Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreements” (MMPA) with Austria, France, Germany, Italy and Denmark.
