

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2752
ANSWERED ON-12/08/2026**

Prime Minister Research Chair (PMRC) scheme 2026

**2752 Dr. Medha Vishram Kulkarni:
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Will the Minister of *Education* be pleased to state:

- (a) the objectives and salient features of the Prime Minister Research Chair (PMRC) scheme 2026 launched to attract accomplished Indian-origin researchers and scientists to Indian institutions;
- (b) the number of Lead Institutions and Host Institutions identified so far under the scheme and the thematic areas of national priority covered;
- (c) the number of applications received from Fellows and Host Institutions since opening of the portal, and the selection process being followed; and
- (d) the financial outlay earmarked for the scheme and the manner in which it is expected to strengthen India's research and innovation ecosystem?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): The Government of India has framed and approved the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 to transform the education landscape into a multidisciplinary, inclusive, and learner-centric ecosystem. The Policy aims to enhance equity, quality and access to education for all, while promoting research and innovation as key components of higher education.

In pursuance with the vision of NEP 2020, the Ministry of Education has launched the Prime Minister Research Chair (PMRC) Scheme to attract and engage distinguished Indian-origin researchers, scientists and professionals with international research experience, to strengthen India's higher education and research ecosystem through research, mentorship and institutional

capacity-building across national priority thematic areas. The Scheme provides for fellowships under three categories, namely Research Chair, Senior Fellow and Young Research Fellow.

Under the Scheme seven institutions have been identified as Lead Institutions. As on date, more than 3,600 applications for fellowship and more than 400 applications from host institutions have been received.

Government has made provision of Rs 200 crore for PMRC Scheme for the year 2026-27. The Scheme envisages India's position as a global hub of research, innovation and knowledge creation by providing benefits of structured engagement of Indian-origin researchers and scientists to Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), national laboratories, and research centres. Details of scheme, eligibility criteria for fellows and host institutions are available at <https://pmrc.education.gov.in/>
