

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2996
ANSWERED ON 13/08/2026

INSPIRE-SHE SCHOLARSHIP FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

2996 SHRI R. GIRIRAJAN:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has shelved its flagship INSPIRE-SHE Scholarship for Higher Education;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not being notified during the last two years;
- (c) the total Scholarship amount disbursed and students benefitted since its inception, State-wise;
- (d) the steps taken by Government to increase the number of beneficiaries to 20,000 students per year; and
- (e) the details of external scholarship provided for Indian students for scientific research in foreign countries?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

(a), (b) and (d): The Government has not shelved its flagship INSPIRE-SHE (Scholarship for Higher Education) Scheme. The scheme is presently under redesign to further strengthen its objectives, improve its implementation framework, and align it with emerging priorities in science education and research.

(c) The state-wise details of the total scholarship amount disbursed and the number of students benefitted under the scheme since its inception are given below:

S. No.	State/UTs	Students benefitted	Amount disbursed (Rs.in Cr.)
1	Andaman And Nicobar Islands	02	0.06
2	Andhra Pradesh	1059	14.82
3	Assam	1043	23.66
4	Bihar	3136	48.39
5	Chandigarh	1290	13.91
6	Chhattisgarh	2531	53.13
7	Delhi	670	28.71
8	Goa	37	0.97
9	Gujarat	1045	24.23
10	Haryana	2044	42.34
11	Himachal Pradesh	2219	42.16
12	Jammu And Kashmir	251	6.03
13	Jharkhand	451	9.83
14	Karnataka	26164	157.37

S. No.	State/UTs	Students benefitted	Amount disbursed (Rs.in Cr.)
15	Kerala	5393	108.22
16	Madhya Pradesh	7795	133.75
17	Maharashtra	5487	103.22
18	Manipur	1452	21.62
19	Meghalaya	319	5.38
20	Mizoram	39	0.59
21	Nagaland	156	2.86
22	Odisha	2385	35.35
23	Punjab	859	20.17
24	Puducherry	13	0.25
25	Rajasthan	23467	472.57
26	Sikkim	1	0.018
27	Tamil Nadu	384	6.51
28	Telangana	269	6.32
29	The Dadra & Nagar Haveli & Daman & Diu	2	0.02
30	Tripura	18	0.74
31	Uttar Pradesh	60263	916.64
32	Uttarakhand	6554	131.31
33	West Bengal	15958	353.00
Total		136298	2784.15

(e) The Government supports Indian students pursuing scientific research abroad through several scholarship schemes. Under the INSPIRE-SHE Mentorship Grant of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), 271 scholars have successfully completed summer research mentorship project abroad so far. The Water Advanced Research and Innovation (WARI) Fellowship, implemented by DST in collaboration with the Indo-U.S. Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF), enables young researchers to undertake advanced water research at leading U.S. institutions, with 63 participants (43 interns and 20 fellows) supported across two phases. Additionally, the National Overseas Scholarship Scheme of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment provide financial assistance to eligible persons with benchmark disabilities to pursue Master's and Ph.D. programmes, including scientific research, at foreign universities, under which 55 beneficiaries have pursued Ph.D. studies abroad during the last five years.
