

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.772
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20/12/2017**

RETURN OF SCIENTISTS TO INDIA

772. SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY *विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government of India observed any increase or decrease in the last five years in the number of Indian scientists who are returning to work in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government of India keeps track or estimates the number of Indian scientists who leave India to work in other countries;
- (d) if so, the details of such tracking or estimation; and
- (e) whether the Government of India plans to attract a larger number of scientists to return and work in India and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI Y.S. CHOWDHARY)**

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(श्री वाई. एस. चौधरी)

(a) & (b): There is a significant increase in number of Indian scientists returning to work in India during the last five years. The Department of Science and Technology (DST) through Ramanujan Fellowship Scheme and the Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) Faculty Scheme and Department of Biotechnology (DBT) through Ramalingaswami re-entry Fellowship provide attractive avenues and opportunities to Indian researchers of high calibre, who are residing in foreign countries, to work in Indian Institutes/Universities of their respective interest and domain. The number of Indian scientists returned to India in the last five years (2012-17) stands at 649 as against 243 in the period 2007-12.

(c) The Ministry of Science and Technology has not installed any mechanism to keep track or estimate the number of Indian scientists who leave India to work in other countries.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) Yes, Madam. Ramanujan and Ramalingaswami Fellowships and INSPIRE Faculty schemes have been designed to attract and accommodate large number of Indian scientists to return and work in India. In addition to assured fellowship and research grant for a period of five years for the scientists, provisions to seek for other competitive research grant of Government made these schemes more attractive and popular. VAJRA (Visiting Advanced Joint Research) Faculty Scheme is a recent initiative of DST to bring overseas scientists and academicians including Non-resident Indians (NRI) and Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) to India to work as adjunct / visiting faculty for a specific period of time in public funded academic and research institutions.
