

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1502  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.03.2018**

**IIT, IISER, NIT**

1502. SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:  
SHRI VINAYAK BHURAO RAUT:  
KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE:  
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:  
SHRIMATI SANTOSH AHLAWAT:  
SHRI SUNIL KUMAR SINGH:  
DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE:  
SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:  
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:  
SHRI PRATHAP SIMHA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has approved the Prime Minister Research Fellowship (PMRF) for students of Higher Educational Institutions like the IITs, IISERs and NITs and if so, the details and salient features thereof along with the number of meritorious students of B.Tech. and M.Tech. who have availed PMRF;
- (b) whether there is any limitation in terms of number of candidates in a year for the applicant for getting the scholarship and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the eligibility criteria fixed for selection of B.Tech. graduates for PMRF and there is any reservation quota fixed for SC/ST/OBC and General candidates;
- (d) the monthly Fellowships/ Scholarships and annual research grants likely to be provided under PMRF;
- (e) whether there is any proposal to upgrade the research facilities at IITs and IISCs and if so, the details thereof along with the funds earmarked for implementation of PMRF; and
- (f) the other steps taken by the Government to stop India's best brains from taking up scholarships for frontier research abroad?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
(DR. SATYA PAL SINGH)**

(a) to (f) : The Government approved the Scheme 'Prime Minister's Research Fellows (PMRF)' at a total cost of Rs.1650 crore for a period of seven years beginning 2018-19. Under this Scheme, the best students who have completed (in last 5 years) or are in the final year of B. Tech or Integrated M.Tech or M.Sc. in Science and Technology streams from IISc/IITs/NITs/IISERs/IITs, with atleast 8.0 CGPA, will be offered direct admission in Ph.D programme in the IITs / IISc, after going through the selection process. Such students will be

offered a fellowship of Rs.70,000/- per month for the first two years, Rs.75,000/- per month for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year, and Rs.80,000/- per month in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> years. Apart from this, a research grant of Rs.2.00 lakh will be provided to each of the Fellows for a period of 5 years to cover their foreign travel expenses for presenting research papers. A maximum of 3000 Fellows would be selected in a three year period. Government provides necessary budgetary support to all Institutions including IITs and IISc, inter-alia for up-gradation of research.

For attracting highly skilled researchers and scientists to pursue their R&D interests in Indian Institutions, several initiatives have been launched such as: Faculty Recharge Programme, CV Raman Post-Doctoral Fellowship Scheme by University Grants Commission (UGC), Ramanujan Fellowship, JC Bose Fellowship, Swarnjayanti Fellowship, Young Scientist Project Award, Women Scientist Scheme by Department of Science & Technology (DST), and Ramalinga Swami Re-entry Fellowship by Department of Biotechnology. Ministry of Human Resource Development have launched Global Initiative for Academic Network (GIAN) which seeks to tap the talent pool of scientists and entrepreneurs from abroad, including those of Indian origin to augment the country's existing academic resources.

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