GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.6165 TO BE ANSWERED ON 4/4/2018

BRAIN DRAIN

6165. SHRI PR. SENTHIL NATHAN: SHRIMATI V. SATHYA BAMA:

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has taken serious note on the Brain Drain issue affecting the developments in Science and Technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the Government's reaction on this issue;
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to encourage and to retain the scientific community and young scientists in the country;
- (d) whether scientists studied and qualified from premier research centres including the IITs prefer to take up jobs in various foreign countries; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken by the Government in this regard to reduce Brain Drain in scientific community? not followed in recruitment by SCTIMST and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES AND MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री, पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्री और पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्री

(डा. हर्ष वर्धन)

- (a) & (b): No significant brain drain which is to the extent of affecting the developments in Science and Technology has been observed by the Union Government.
- (c) Government has taken several measures to encourage and to retain the scientific community and young scientists in the country. The extramural funding schemes of Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Fellowship schemes of DST, DBT and Council Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) have been designed to encourage individual scientists to do quality research. Schemes / Programmes such as Fund for improvement of S&T infrastructures in universities and higher educational institutions (FIST) to build research infrastructure for enhancing research capabilities, Core Research Grant, Research fellowships such as JC Bose and Swarnajayanti are targeted at scientific community to continue global level research in the country. Special attention has been given to young scientists for making them independent and motivate them to remain in the country through schemes like Early Career Research Award, National Postdoctoral Fellowship etc.
- (d) & (e): Government is aware of the fact that a few scientists studied and qualified from premier research centres including the IITs prefer to take up jobs in various foreign countries due to socio-economic and personal reasons. Several steps have been taken by the Government to arrest the brain drain. The recently approved Prime Minister's Research Fellows (PMRF) scheme of Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) offers attractive research fellowship to potential students from Indian Institute of Science/IITs/ National Institute of Technology/ Indian Institute of Science Education and Research / Indian Institute of Information Technology to undertake doctoral research in cutting edge science and technology domains. The Flexible Complementing Scheme / Merit based promotion scheme positioned in scientific departments and the implementation of the VII Pay Commission pay scale and introduction of Performance Related Incentive Scheme (PRIS) in strategic Departments have attracted scientists to remain in the country. In addition to incentivization schemes like sharing of proceeds with scientists from contractual R&D; and consultancy and premia & royalty received from the transfer of technology, the Government has several welfare programmes to contain brain-drain in scientific community.
