

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.122
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18/7/2018

INDIAN SCIENTISTS RETURNING TO INDIA

122. SHRI MOHITE PATIL VIJAYSINH SHANKARRAO:
DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN:

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

- (a) whether there is a significant increase in number of Indian scientists returning to work in India during the last five years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of scientists returning to India during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated schemes to provide attractive avenues and opportunities to Indian researchers who are residing in foreign countries to work in Indian Institutes and universities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government of India keeps track or estimates the number of Indian scientists who leave India to work in other countries; and (f) if so, the details of such tracking or estimation?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES AND MINISTER OF
ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)
विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री और पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्री

(डा. हर्ष वर्धन)

- (a) Yes Madam, there is an increase in the number of Indian scientists returning to work in India during the last five Years. To attract those Indian Scientists Government has introduced various schemes & programmes. Department of Biotechnology (DBT) through Ramalingaswami re-entry Fellowship and Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) - Department of Science and Technology (DST) through Ramanujan Fellowship, provides attractive avenue 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. Under the Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) Faculty Scheme of DST, which was initiated during FY 2011-12, for the young Indian citizens and people of Indian origin with PhD (in science, mathematics, engineering, pharmacy, medicine, and agriculture related subjects) from any recognized university in the world are offered contractual research positions in Indian Institutions / Universities to carry out independent research.
- (b) During the last three years 112 fellows have joined in various institutes/ universities across the country under Ramalingaswami Re-entry Fellowship scheme and 121 fellows through the Ramanujan Fellowship. Similarly, under INSPIRE Faculty fellowship scheme, 186 number of Indian scientists have returned to work in India from foreign institutions and joined various institutes/universities across the country.
- (c) & (d): Yes Madam, the Ramalingaswami Re-entry Fellowship was conceived in the year 2006-07 with the idea of encouraging scientists (Indian Nationals) below the age of 45 years working outside the country, and who would like to return to the home country and pursue their research interests in Modern Biology, Biotechnology, Life Sciences and other related areas. The principal objective of the scheme is to improve the country's human resource capacity in life sciences, modern biology and biotechnology research – both in terms of development, translation and diffusion by means of attracting young scientists settled abroad. Each fellow receives a fellowship amount of Rs 1,00,000/- (consolidated) per month with HRA @ Rs 18,500 /- pm and research / contingency grant of Rs.10, 00,000/- for 1st & 2nd year, Rs. 7, 50,000/- per annum for 3rd & 4th year and Rs.5, 00,000/- per annum for 5th year. The amount of Rs. 50,000/- per annum will be provided as institutional overhead. The fellows who are unable to seek permanent position during the tenure of fellowship are considered for another term on a fresh appraisal.
- The Ramanujan Fellowship of SERB -DST, was launched during FY 2005-2006 and this fellowship is aimed for brilliant scientists and engineers, below the age of 45 years, from all over the world, who want to return and to take up scientific research positions in India, where the fellowship supporting for the duration of 5 years. The value of the fellowship is Rs.1,00,000/- along with Rs.18,500/- HRA per month. Each Fellow, in addition, receives a research grant of Rs.7.00 lakh per annum and the rupees of Rs. 60,000/annum is provided as institutional overhead to the Indian host institute.
- The INSPIRE Faculty Scheme of INSPIRE Program of DST, offers assured opportunity every year for about 200 no's in the age group of 27-32 years, through contractual and tenure track positions to doctoral students in both basic and applied sciences including engineering, agriculture, veterinary and medicine areas, for pursuing 5 years independent research activities at any recognized University/ academic Institutions/ Laboratories in the country.
- (e) No Madam.
- (f) Does not arise.