GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.3190
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.12.2018

Implementation of JRP Scheme

3190. SHRI T.RADHAKRISHNAN:
        SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:
        SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR:
        SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:
        KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:
        SHRI S. RAJENDRAN:

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

(a) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has implemented a Joint Research Programme (JRP) between higher education institutions in India and foreign education institutions;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of foreign institutions involved in research and academic collaboration;

(c) the manner in which Indian students have benefited through said JRP;

(d) whether the Government has initiated any steps to increase the representation of female students in JRP;

(e) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated by the Government during each of the last three years and the current year; and

(f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide affordable and quality education to the eligible population in the country in Government and private sector institutions?

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ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(Dr. SATYA PAL SINGH)
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(a) to (c): As informed by University Grants Commission (UGC), a number of Joint Research Programmes (JRP) have been implemented through Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs)/Agreements between the Government of India and the Government of other countries like USA, UK, Israel, Norway, New Zealand and Germany.

    The Programmes are being implemented to provide opportunity to young Indian researchers and teachers of all disciplines to have international collaborative research training in advance techniques and technologies in emerging fields. Research scholars are also associated with the projects and participating in the exchange visits.

(d) to (f): The extant National Policy on Education (NPE) provides for a National System of Education wherein, up to a given level, all students, irrespective of caste, creed, location or sex, have access to education.

As informed by UGC, the funds allocated for various joint research programmes in the last 3 years are as follows:

Programme	Allocation of Funds (in cr.)
Indo- US 21st Century Knowledge Initiative	4.50
Indo- Israel	30.00
UGC- UKIERI	4.00
Indo- Norway	6.60
Indo- German Partnership	2.04

Further, the Ministry of Human Resource Development has introduced the Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC), which facilitates academic and research collaborations between Indian Institutions and top leading Universities of the world. With an allocation of Rs.418 Crores, spread over a period of two years (2018-19 and 2019-20), the scheme aims to support around 600 joint research proposals and will have a major impact in providing the best international expertise to address major national problems, expose Indian academicians to the best collaborators abroad, provide Indian students an opportunity to work in the world class laboratories, develop strong bilateral relationships in research, and improve the international ranking of Indian Institutions.

Moreover, in exercise of the powers conferred by the provisions of the Institute of Technology Act, 1961, each IIT enters into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with educational institutions across the world for academic and research collaboration, including student and faculty exchange programmes, joint research projects, joint Ph.D. programmes and twinning arrangements. The Indian Institutes of Management can also enter into collaboration with educational or management institutions in other countries, to extend the interests of management education and research, under the provisions of The Indian Institutes of Management Act, 2017.

The Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research have also entered into MoUs with foreign institutions for collaborative research, and faculty and student exchange programmes.

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