

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 65  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2019**

**PMRF for Students**

65. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:  
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:  
DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:  
SHRI ANANDRAO ADSUL:  
SHRI VINAYAK BHAURAO RAUT:

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 education institutions like the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs) and National Institutes of Technology (NITs);
- (b) if so, the eligibility criteria fixed for selection of B.Tech graduates for PMRF and the monthly scholarships and annual research grants will be provided under the PMRF to each scholar;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to upgrade the research facilities at IITs and IISc and if so, the plan prepared therefor and the funds earmarked for implementation of PMRF; and
- (d) 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 (d): The Government has approved the 'Prime Minister's Research Fellows (PMRF)' Scheme under which the best students from all recognized institutions in India are selected as per PMRF guidelines for admission in the Ph.D programmes in Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs). The selected students are offered a monthly fellowship of Rs.70,000/- for the first two years, Rs.75,000/- for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year, and Rs.80,000/- in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> year, along with a research grant of Rs.2.00 lakh to each Fellow for a period of 5 years to cover foreign travel expenses for presenting research papers. During the current fiscal an amount of Rs.15.00 crore has been allocated for the scheme,

out of which a sum of Rs.12.38 crore has been released. The Government is committed to not only retain the students passing out of the premier educational institutions in the country, but also attract the non-resident Indians back to the Country. For attracting highly skilled researchers and scientists to pursue their R&D interests in Indian Institutions, initiatives 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 have been launched. Global Initiative for Academic Network (GIAN) scheme launched by this Ministry seeks to tap the talent pool of scientists and entrepreneurs abroad, including those of Indian origin to augment the country's existing academic resources.

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