GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2413 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.12.2022

SCRAPPING OF SCIENTISTS AWARDS

2413. SHRIMATI MALA ROY:

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

(a) the rational for doing away with awards given to scientists for their achievements;

(b) the number of awards that have been scrapped; and

(c) whether the Government has analysed the effect, this will have on

the moral of the scientific community and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी तथा पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार) (डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह)

(a) The broad objective of the rationalization and doing away with selected awards was aimed to avoid duplicity, bring greater objectives, transparency and efficiency. During the analysis of the award guidelines, secondary research and best practices, it was observed that the awarding process followed for different awards lack standardization and were not making desired impact on society as well as the Science & Technology ecosystem. Some of these awards were processed by different agencies through inadequate guidelines, arbitrary eligibility, evaluation and selection criteria.

(b) The total number of awards under the Department of Science and Technology that have been rationalised was nearly 200.

(c) There may not be any significant impact on the morale of the scientific community. Rather, the rationalization of the Awards with greater transparency, objectives, efficiency and through enhancing the stature of the existing awards, would boost the morale of the scientific community.

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