

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5239
ANSWERED ON 03/04/2023

Students Opting Foreign Universities for Higher Education

5239. SHRI ANUMULA REVANTH REDDY:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note that the number of students opting for foreign Universities for higher studies is increasing and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of students who have joined foreign universities since 2018, year/State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has noticed that the students who aspire to but cannot afford to go to foreign universities are unable to get quality higher education;
- (d) if so, the details of the number of students who have applied for Government scholarships facilitating admission in foreign Universities but were rejected during the past five years, year/State-wise;
- (e) whether the Government is taking any steps to strengthen Indian Education System to facilitate better higher education within the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a) to (b): Bureau of Immigration, Ministry of Home Affairs maintains departure and arrival data of Indians. But there is no index of Indian students going abroad for higher education purpose. Purpose of Indians for going abroad is captured manually based either on their verbal disclosure or the type of visa of the destination country produced by them at the time of according immigration clearance and State wise data is not maintained. The number of Indians, who disclosed their purpose of visit as Study/Education while going abroad from 2018 to 2022, is given below:

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
No. of Students	518015	586337	259655	444553	750365

(c) to (f): There are 1,113 Universities, 43,796 Colleges and 11,296 Stand Alone Institutions in the country as per All India Survey on Higher Education 2020-21. To improve the quality of Higher Education in India and bring it at par with global standard many reforms and initiatives have been taken under National Education Policy (NEP), 2020. These initiatives include establishment of the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC); Guidelines for Multiple Entry and Exit in Academic Programmes offered in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs); Guidelines

for Transforming HEIs into Multidisciplinary Institutions; Common Universities Entrance Test; Guidelines on Internship/ Apprenticeship embedded Degree Programme; Online and Open and Distance Learning Education; 1st Year Engineering Programmes in Regional Languages; Pursuing two Academic Programmes simultaneously; Establishment of Research and Development Cells in HEIs; Professor of Practice; Curriculum and Credit Framework for Undergraduate Programme; Guidelines for Internationalization of Higher Education.

In addition to above, to promote internationalisation of Indian education, National Education Policy (NEP), 2020 stipulates various measures, which inter alia include facilitating research / teaching collaborations and faculty /student exchange with high-quality foreign Higher Education Institutions (HEIs); signing of relevant mutually beneficial Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with foreign countries; encouraging high performing Indian universities to set up campuses in other countries; facilitating selected universities e.g. those from among the top 100 universities in the world to operate in India; setting up of International Student Office at each Higher Education Institution (HEI) for welcoming and supporting students arriving from abroad; and promoting courses and programmes in subjects, such as Indology, Indian Languages, AYUSH systems of medicines, yoga, arts etc. In line with the recommendations of NEP, 2020, several measures have been initiated to strengthen Internationalization of the Higher Education, such as:

- i. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued Regulations on Academic Collaboration between Indian and Foreign Higher Educational Institutions to offer Twinning, Joint Degree and Dual Degree Programmes on 02.05.2022.
- ii. University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued Guidelines for Internationalisation of Higher Education on 29.07.2022. The guidelines call for establishment of the Office for International Affairs in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) as a single point of contact for facilitating foreign students and promoting internationalisation.
- iii. World-Class Foreign Universities and Institutions have been allowed in the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) to offer courses in Financial Management, FinTech, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics free from domestic regulations, except those by International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) to facilitate availability of high-end human resources for financial services and technology.
- iv. University Grants Commission (UGC) has drafted enabling Regulations to facilitate the establishment of campuses of foreign higher institutions in India. The draft University Grants Commission (Setting up and Operation of Campuses of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions in India) Regulations, 2023 are available at https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/9214094_Draft-Setting-up-and-Operation-of-Campuses-of-Foreign-Higher-Educational-Institutions-in-India-Regulations-2023.pdf

These initiatives will provide global exposure to students for multidisciplinary education with an internationally relevant curriculum and quality education.

The Ministry of Education provides financial aid to only those Indian students who pursue higher studies in India. Moreover, based on requests received from friendly foreign countries/institutions, the Ministry of Education disseminates information on scholarships offered by such donor countries for Indian students of all the States and Union Territories to study abroad, through its website <https://www.education.gov.in/scholarships>. The details of the schemes and programmes being implemented by different Ministries under which financial assistance and interest subsidy are provided to meritorious students for pursuing higher education abroad are available in following websites:

SI N.	Ministry	Name of Schemes & Programmes	Website links
1.	Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment	National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Castes, Denotified Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes, Landless Agricultural Labourers and Traditional Artisans category	https://nosmsje.gov.in/(X(1)S(towfhz0ixhfu5oqrcwv1j032))/Default.aspx?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1
2.	Ministry of Tribal Affairs	National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled tribe Students	https://overseas.tribal.gov.in/
3.	Ministry of Science & Technology	Overseas Visiting Doctoral Fellowship Programme	https://www.serbonline.in/SERB/ovdf?HomePage=New
