

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1706  
ANSWERED ON 13/12/2023**

**BRAIN DRAIN**

**1706. SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the serious issue of brain drain affecting the developments in the field of Science and Technology and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (b) the measures taken by the Government to reduce brain drain from scientific community in the country?**

**A N S W E R**

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

**विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय के राज्यमंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)  
(डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह)**

- (a) No significant brain drain to such an extent of affecting the development in the field of Science and Technology (S&T) has been observed by the Union Government. Multifaceted approaches have been adopted in terms of creating adequate opportunities in the country to retain highly skilled talent pool and also encourage return of the best-in-class scientists, from abroad, to India, for enhancing the nation's capabilities in various areas of scientific research, development and deployment.**

**(b) Several steps have been taken by the Government to check brain drain of the scientific community. Some of the key initiatives include; the diverse extramural funding schemes of Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Fellowship schemes of DST, DBT and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) to encourage researchers to do quality research in the country; several schemes / programmes for building research infrastructure for enhancing research capabilities such as Fund for improvement of S&T infrastructures in universities and higher educational institutions (FIST) have been instituted; schemes like Core Research Grant, Research fellowships such as JC Bose and Swarnajayanti are targeted at scientific community to empower them to pursue world-class research in cutting edge areas of science and technology; a large number of young scientists have been supported through schemes like Start-up Research Grant, National Postdoctoral Fellowship of the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), INSPIRE Faculty Fellowship of DST, and Ramalingaswami Re-entry Fellowship, Biomedical Research Career Programme and MK Bhan-Young Researcher Fellowship Programme of DBT. Visiting Advanced Joint Research (VAJRA) Faculty Scheme of SERB provides a platform for overseas scientists including Non-Resident Indians to undertake collaborative research in Indian Institutions and Universities for a finite period of time. In addition, the Flexible Complementing Scheme / Merit based promotion scheme positioned in scientific departments and introduction of Performance Related Incentive Scheme (PRIS) in strategic Departments have also been instrumental in recruiting and retaining the scientists. All these measures taken by the Government are aimed at retaining our scientific workforce in the country and thereby reduce brain drain.**

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