

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION 2081
ANSWERED ON 9.12.2024**

Students Pursuing Higher Studies Abroad

†2081. Shri Murari Lal Meena:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is an increase in the number of students pursuing higher studies abroad during the last five years along with the reasons therefor;
- (b) if so, the details and the number of students going abroad along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard, year-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has taken cognizance that the students are going abroad for better career opportunities, flexible citizenship norms and quality education;
- (d) if so, the measures adopted by the Government to address the same;
- (e) the policy reforms and measures adopted by the Government in respect of Universities and institutes to revamp higher education in the country and to prevent the students going abroad; and
- (f) whether the Government has formulated any special scheme to develop educational and research institutes of international standard in the country and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (f): The Ministry of Education does not maintain data related to Indian students going abroad for higher studies. As per information provided by the Bureau of Immigration (BoI), the number of Indians who disclosed their purpose of visit as STUDY/EDUCATION while going abroad in the last five years is under:

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number of Students	586337	259655	444553	750365	892989

Studies abroad are a matter of individual will and choice. Government of India has taken comprehensive action to ensure availability of high-quality education at every level in India. The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 was framed and approved by the Government of India to transform and improve the quality of education in the country. The key aspects of NEP 2020 include, moving towards multidisciplinary and holistic education, institutional autonomy, promotion of quality research through establishment of National Research Foundation, skill development, continuous professional development of teachers, integration of technology, internationalisation of higher education,

multidisciplinary curricula, engaging pedagogy, blended assessment and promotion of Indian languages and Indian Knowledge Systems.

Government of India has undertaken several initiatives to ensure availability of quality education in the higher education domain through infrastructure upgradation of the institutions, accreditation of institutions and courses, promotion of research & innovation and augmenting the digital initiatives. Some of the initiatives are:

- Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA)/ Pradhan Mantri Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA) scheme provides financial support to State Governments under three components, (i) Enhancing quality and excellence in select state universities, (ii) Infrastructure grants to universities, and (iii) multi-disciplinary education and research universities (MERU).
- PM VidyaLaxmi Scheme aims to provide support to any student getting admission in quality Higher Education Institutions (QHEIs).
- Promotion of accreditation of Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) through **National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC)** to ensure quality education.
- To assess the qualitative competence of the programs offered by educational institution from diploma level to post-graduate level by **National Board of Accreditation (NBA)**.
- Established **8 Research Parks** at premier institutions to serve as hubs for innovation, knowledge creation and have research collaboration with top-rated industries, to enable entrepreneurship and incubation of students and building strong academic linkages.
- Established Anusandhan National Research Foundation which aims to seed, grow and promote research and development (R&D) and foster a culture of research and innovation throughout India's universities, colleges, research institutions, and R&D laboratories.
- **Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC)** to encourage research collaboration between top Indian Institutes with the premier foreign institutes;
- **One Nation, One Subscription** initiative to provide centralized access to high-quality academic resources, research papers, and journals to students, researchers, and educators across the country;
- To ensure high quality educational content to every learner through **SWAYAM, SWAYAM Plus etc:**

Further, University Grants Commission (UGC) has also taken several initiatives to enhance the quality of education, including financial support to HEIs. Some of the important initiatives are **regulations for setting up and operation of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions in India (FHEIs)**, Academic collaboration for **Joint/Dual/Twinning degree programmes**, Guidelines for **Internship/Apprenticeship Embedded Degree Program**, establishment of **Research and Development Cells in HEIs**, promoted the concept of **Professor of Practice**, **Accessibility guidelines and standards for Higher Educational Institutions and Universities**, started **UTSAH Portal** (Undertaking Transformative Strategies and Actions in Higher Education) to track achievements of NEP 2020, issued **Curriculum and Guidelines on Life Skills** (Jeevan Kaushal) 2.0, **Malaviya Mission Teachers Training Programme**, etc.
