

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION 3310
ANSWERED ON 16.12.2024**

Financial Outflow by Students Studying Abroad

3310. Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken steps to address the significant financial outflow of approximately \$70 billion by Indian students studying abroad by 2025, particularly about educational opportunities available within the country;
- (b) the manner in which the Government plan to leverage its relationship with Canada to create more educational partnerships and opportunities for Indian students, thereby reducing the need for them to pursue studies abroad;
- (c) whether the Government is taking measures to enhance the quality of higher education in the country with regard to fund outflow by Indian students in other countries, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any assessments on the opportunity costs associated with this financial outflow, particularly in terms of lost potential economic contributions from these students if they were educated in the country; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): 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 Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA)/ Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar 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:**
- Establishment of three AI Centres of Excellence (CoE) focused on Healthcare, Agriculture, and Sustainable Cities.

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.

As informed by Ministry of External Affairs, Cooperation in the field of education between India and Canada is facilitated through various mechanisms, including Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs), individual partnerships between educational and research institutions, student and teacher exchanges, among other initiatives.

‘Study in India’ (SII) program is a flagship initiative launched in 2018 to promote Indian education and making India as a preferred destination for Higher Education. Third party assessment was done in 2020 encompassing areas like Quality of Education in India, Gaining International Exposure, High reputation and fame/Ranking of the Institution and Value of the course and availability of specific course. Subsequently, SII Program was revamped and continued for the period 2021-2026. Further, to facilitate seamless movement of foreign students to India, Study in India (SII) portal <https://studyinindia.gov.in> was launched on 3rd August 2023.
