

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2721  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.03.2016

**Increase in Fellowship Amount**

2721. KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken up the matter with Ministry of Finance to raise Ph.D and M.Tech students fellowship amount announced in December, 2014;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and whether the Ministry has taken up this issue with Ministry of Finance and the response of the Ministry thereon;
- (c) the proposed hike in the fellowship amount for Ph.D. and M.Tech. students and the number of students likely to be benefited;
- (d) whether the Ministry's Budget was slashed in the current fiscal, affecting funding to universities, autonomous institutions and fellowships;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether Ph.D. and M.Tech. students have represented the Ministry to disburse the fellowship amount since December, 2015 and if so, the steps being taken by the Ministry to clear these scholars dues?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a): The University Grants Commission (UGC) has already enhanced the amount of its fellowships/scholarships for humanities, social sciences and basic scientific research with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2014 by 55% of existing amounts. The revision was undertaken for maintaining parity with similar increase in the amount of fellowships by the Ministry of Science and Technology. There is no proposal for raising the fellowship amounts announced by the UGC on 1<sup>st</sup> December, 2014.

(b) & (c): Does not arise in view of the above.

(d) & (e): The Plan allocation of the Department of Higher Education for 2015-16 has been revised to Rs. 14428.00 Crore at Revised Estimate (RE) Stage against the original allocation of 15855.26 Crore. Release of funds to autonomous institutions and higher educational institutions by the Ministry has not been slashed, and is based on assessment of their requirements and the utilization of the funds released. The Plan RE of the Department during 2015-16 is actually higher than that of 2014-15.

(f): The UGC has disbursed the DBT payments, till February, 2016, for 15 fellowship/ scholarship schemes and taken up the matter of fund availability for Maulana Azad National Fellowship with the Ministry of Minority Affairs. All individual grievances received in the Ministry regarding disbursement of the Ministry of Human Resource Development funded fellowship/ scholarship amounts are promptly taken up with the concerned autonomous institution for effective resolution.

\*\*\*\*\*