

#### **Study of earth sciences**

**\*84. SHRI TARUN VIJAY:** Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures Government has taken to popularise the study of earth sciences amongst the youths in colleges;
- (b) whether Government is contemplating any special scheme to attract young scientists towards this stream; and
- (c) the number of doctorates awarded by various universities in the field of earth sciences during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

#### **Plan to bring back Indian scientists**

**\*85. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:** Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has drawn any plan to attract and bring back Indian scientists working abroad to pursue scientific research in the country in their respective fields of work;
- (b) if so, the details including the cost thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken so far in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, Ministry of Science and Technology is implementing initiatives to bring back and attract Indian scientists working abroad to pursue scientific research in India in their respective field of work as well in home country research programs. The details are as follows:

Department of Science and Technology (DST)- Ramanujan Fellowship Program for Indian brilliant scientists and engineers from all over the world, especially those who wish to return to India, to take up scientific research positions at any of the scientific institutions and universities in India. All areas of science are covered under this Fellowship and the Fellowship is given for 5 years duration with fellowship of Rs. 75,000 consolidated per month and a contingent grant of Rs.5 lakhs per year. Since inception 266 applications have been received and 102 Indian origin scientists working abroad have been offered this "Fellowship".