

Research (INSPIRE), the increase in the outlay for science and technology sector in successive Five Year Plans, the grant of better pay scales to scientists as per the 6th Pay Commission, the creation of additional posts in Scientist 'H' grade, enhancement in the fellowship emoluments etc. The "brain drain" phenomenon is clearly declining.

**Exchange of faculty and students with foreign universities**

540. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether certain foreign universities have entered into an agreement with their Indian counterparts for exchange of faculty members and students;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) how far this has enhanced the development of students and the course content?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR): (a) to (c) Indian Universities and Institutions of higher learning are entering into agreements with foreign Universities that also include agreements for exchange of faculty members and students. The Indian Universities and Institutions are free to enter into agreements for collaboration with their counterparts in other countries. The Ministry of Human Resource Development, through an appropriate policy framework as well as by enhancing bilateral relations with foreign countries, strives to create a conducive atmosphere for Indian institutions to tie up with their foreign counterparts and vice versa. Such arrangements are aimed at achieving quality education including refinement in teaching and learning methods.

**Setting up of Regional Centre of Indira Gandhi  
National Tribal University in Andhra Pradesh**

541. SHRIMATI GUNDU SUDHARANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh has considerable percentage of tribal population;
- (b) if so, whether there is every justification for setting up of a Regional