

Peer Assisted Learning programme

1514. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Peer Assisted Learning programmes to be implemented in IITs;
- (b) the details of funding allocated by Government to each IIT for this scheme; and
- (c) whether this scheme or any other has been created to ensure that IIT students not fluent in English have academic and social support to help them catch up?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The IITs have been asked by the IIT Council to implement a Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) programme for mentoring socially and educationally disadvantaged students so that they can cope with the academic rigour of IITs. Under this, senior students mentor fresh students especially from socially and educationally disadvantaged sections. The programme is being implemented by IITs from their internal resources.

Apart from this, many IITs have taken steps to improve the fluency of students in English language such as:

- (a) Operationalising a basic English language course to improve English competency,
- (b) Offering two-non-graded courses in language and writing skills using professional software for English language instruction.
- (c) Conducting formal and informal English language remedial sessions by student mentors.
- (d) Holding special English classes on weekends or evening tutorials; and
- (e) Provision of additional help through teaching assistants.

The above support is provided by IITs without charging any fee.

Fellowship for research degrees

1515. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of students pursuing research degrees, including M.Phil and Ph.D. who receive fellowships from Government, year-wise since 2013;

(b) the average benefits of these fellowships, including stipend, tuition fee allowance and study grants;

(c) the total budget allocated to research fellowships and the proportion disbursed, year-wise since 2013; and

(d) the number of research fellowships awarded to different subjects such as social sciences, humanities or engineering?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) As per the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), the number of students pursuing research degrees, including M.Phil. and Ph.D. who received fellowships, under their schemes, year-wise since 2013, is the following:

Year	Number of students
2013-14	41970
2014-15	56024
2015-16	69435
(till 8th March, 2016)	

(b) The UGC is implementing several fellowship schemes for students pursuing research degrees, namely: (i) Junior/Senior Research fellowship; (ii) Maulana Azad National fellowship; (iii) Rajiv Gandhi National fellowship for Scheduled Caste (SC) students; (iv) Rajiv Gandhi National fellowship for Scheduled Tribe (ST) students; (v) Rajiv Gandhi National fellowship for students with disabilities; (vi) National fellowship for Other Backward Classes; (vii) Swami Vivekanand Single Girl Child fellowship; (viii) Basic Scientific Research (BSR) Fellowship; and (ix) Non-National Eligibility Test (NET) fellowship. The UGC has informed that its fellowship amount, under these schemes, for students pursuing research degrees is ₹ 25,000/- per month for the initial two years and ₹ 28,000/- for the remaining tenure, as per the fellowship scheme. The students are also eligible for matching allowances, as per the fellowship scheme. The fellowships awarded under the Non-National Eligibility Test fellowships, through the UGC grants, are ₹ 8,000 per month for Ph.D. course and ₹ 5,000 per month for M.Phil. course. The details of these UGC fellowships are at <http://www.ugc.ac.in/page/XII-Plan-Guidelines.aspx#quality>.

The AICTE has informed that the scholarship given to the teachers sponsored under Ph.D. [Quality Improvement Programme (QIP)] is ₹ 9000 per month, along with ₹ 10,000 per annum as contingency, and the scholarship is in addition to their regular salary and allowances to be paid by the parent institutions.

(c) The UGC has informed that there is no fixed allocation for fellowships and scholarships in its fund. The Central Government releases block grants to the UGC for promotion, determination and maintenance of standards of education. The year-wise fellowship amount released by the UGC and AICTE on fellowship schemes for students pursuing research degrees, since 2013, is the following:

Year	Grants released by the UGC and AICTE (₹ in crores)
2013-14	439.40
2014-15	874.53
2015-16 (till 8th March, 2016)	1013.23

(d) As per information made available by the UGC a total of nearly 30000 students are selected every year under its research promotion fellowship schemes, namely: (i) Post-Doctoral fellowships for students in professional courses; (ii) Post-Doctoral fellowship for women; (iii) Dr. S. Radhakrishnan Post-Doctoral Fellowship for women in humanities and social sciences, including languages; (iv) Dr. D. S. Kothari Post-Doctoral Fellowship; (v) UGC-BSR Faculty Fellowship; (vi) Emeritus Fellowship; (vii) Junior/Senior Research Fellowship; (viii) Maulana Azad National Fellowship for students belonging to minorities; (ix) Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for SC students; (x) Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for ST students; (xi) Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for students with disabilities; (xii) National Fellowship for Other Backward Classes; (xiii) Swami Vivekanand Single Girl Child Fellowship; (xiv) BSR Fellowship and (xv) Non-NET Fellowship. The AICTE is currently supporting 382 Ph.D. Students under its QIP scheme.

Business schools without AICTE approval

1516. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some business schools are being run even without AICTE approval;
- (b) if so, the names thereof and how these are allowed;
- (c) what actions have been taken against them; and
- (d) whether students from such institutions are being employed by private sector?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) AICTE has issued Notices as per the provisions of the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987 to (279) Institutions found to