

Fellowship Programs	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018
Fulbright-Nehru Specialists Program	-	-	-
Fulbright-Nehru International Education Administrators Seminar	9	11	14
TOTAL NUMBERS	143	145	148

Foreign visits of academicians

†1684. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of professors, scientists, research scholars and educationists who visited foreign countries under the educational exchange programmes during the last three years;

(b) whether most of the such persons belong to metropolitan cities;

(c) if so, the details thereof, city-wise; and

(d) the measures being taken by Government so that more persons particularly from other cities and regions also visit foreign countries under such exchange programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) to (d) Educational Exchange Programmes (EEPs) entered into by this Ministry with foreign Governments envisages to facilitate exchange of faculty and research scholars between India and the respective countries through collaborative arrangements.

Apart from Government level MoUs/EEPs, most of the Universities in India are autonomous in nature and can enter into collaboration with foreign educational institutions in the areas which, *inter alia*, include exchange of faculty, exchange of students, joint research programmes, by signing agreements/MoUs at institutional level, provided there is a provision in the Act or Regulation (under which the institution has been established) to enter into an agreement with the foreign institution and there is no additional financial implication for the Government over and above the lump sum annual grant provided to the institution and the MoU/Agreement should conform to the National Education Policy, Acts of Parliament and any other laws of land in vogue.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

These MoUs/EEPs are of over-arching nature and provide a platform for such arrangements and the institutions are free to conclude specific arrangements for collaboration. Hence, information in respect of the visits by professors, scientists, researchers and educationists under such faculty exchange programmes undertaken by institutions is not centrally maintained by this Ministry.

Grants to schools

1685. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government is providing separate grants directly to the schools for libraries, laboratories and also for sports facilities every year covering all the eleven lakh schools across the country; and

(b) if so, the grants provided to schools in Maharashtra during the last three years along with their names?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b) The Department of School Education and Literacy has launched the Samagra Shiksha - an Integrated Scheme for School Education as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme in partnership with States with effect from the year 2018-19. This programme subsumes the three erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE). It is an overarching programme for the school education sector extending from pre-school to class XII and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of school education. It envisages the 'school' as a continuum from pre-school, primary, upper primary, secondary to senior secondary levels. Under the scheme, Central Government provides grants to the State/UT Governments. No grants are provided directly to the Schools by the Central Government.

Under the Samagra Shiksha, for the first time provision of grant of ₹ 5000 for primary schools, ₹ 10,000 for upper primary schools and up to ₹ 25,000 for Secondary and Senior Secondary schools for sports equipment for indoor and outdoor games, has been made. An allocation of ₹ 40.80 lakh has been made for sports grant in the state of Maharashtra in 2018-19.

In order to complement the activities of *Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat* under the Scheme and inculcate the reading habits among students of all ages, strengthening of school libraries including purchase of books, library grant from ₹ 5000 to ₹ 20000 has been provisioned for Primary to Senior Secondary Government Schools, for the