

has further informed that, through Letter No.F.1-5/2006 (SCT) dated 19.7.2018, it has directed all Central Universities, State/Deemed to be Universities receiving grant-in-aid and inter-University Centres of UGC to postpone the recruitment process, if it is already underway, till further orders.

#### **Reduction in quantum of fellowships**

522. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of fellowships for which the amount allocated has been reduced since 2014 and the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of allocations made for fellowships since 2009, year-wise;

(c) whether the annual spending on fellowships and scholarships in Central Universities has been reduced during the last five years; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to increase the number of students in the field of research and development activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) to (d) As per the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), allocation of funds for fellowships are demand driven and year-wise allocation made for fellowships since 2009 is:—

(₹ in crore)

| Years             | Funds disbursed |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 2009-10           | 168.55          |
| 2010-11           | 308.83          |
| 2011-12           | 320.45          |
| 2012-13           | 407.99          |
| 2013-14           | 442.14          |
| 2014-15           | 842.59          |
| 2015-16           | 1070.44         |
| 2016-17           | 1321.63         |
| 2017-18           | 1568.38         |
| 2018-19           | 892.25          |
| (Upto 31.12.2018) |                 |
| TOTAL             | 7343.25         |

To increase the number of students in the field of research and development activities, the Government has taken the following steps:—

- (i) Enhancement of fellowship amount: The fellowship amount has been enhanced for Ph.D and Post Doctoral studies by 55% with effect from 1.12.2014 and further enhanced by 25-35% from 1.1.2019. Enhancement in the fellowship amount has been the highest in these 5 years.
- (ii) Fellowship slots: Based on the demand, slots under the existing fellowship schemes have been increased.
- (iii) New fellowship schemes launched:—
  - Prime Minister's Research Fellowship.
  - Dr. S. Radhakrishnan Post Doctoral Fellowship for research in Humanities and Social Science.
  - Swami Vivekananda Single Girl Child Fellowship for research in Social Science.
  - National Fellowship for Other Backward Class (Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment).

**Evaluation of difficulties faced by schools in rural and remote areas**

523. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to constitute a Committee of Experts for proper evaluation of difficulties faced by schools in rural and remote areas in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government of India has launched the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha-an integrated scheme for school education throughout the country with effect from 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. The States and UTs are assisted by the Central Government to implement the Samagra Shiksha as a programme for providing universal access and retention, bridging of gender and social category