

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No.2377**  
ANSWERED ON 16/03/2021

**TEACHING PROFESSION**

2377. Shri Rajmani Patel:

Shri Harnath Singh Yadav:

Lt.Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):

Dr. Amee Yajnik:

Will the Minister of Science and Technology be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has put any new mechanism to select best talents in teaching profession so as to bring improvement in the quality of education in the country;
- (b) whether Government proposes to increase the investment in science and technology education in order to realize its ambition for becoming a global force in science; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and whether Government has formulated any policy in this regard and the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE; MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY; AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES  
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) Yes, the Government has put several mechanisms to select best talents in teaching profession so as to bring improvement in the quality of education in the country. The Department of Science & Technology (DST) is implementing “Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE)” to attract, motivate, nurture and train talented and meritorious students to study science subjects and opt for careers in Research and Development (R&D) as well teaching. The INSPIRE Fellowship scheme nurtures and supports talented youth for maximum five years to complete Ph.D. and INSPIRE Faculty-Fellowship provides five years post-doctoral research opportunity to young achievers to establish themselves as independent researchers. The pool of talented and nurtured youth is maintained for the teaching and research requirement. Several other schemes are in place to maintain the talent pool for teaching and research profession. Some of the schemes are;

Department of Biotechnology (DBT) Junior Research Fellowship (JRF); Department of Biotechnology (DBT) Research Associateship (RA) and National Eligibility Test For Junior Research Fellowship (NET JRF Fellowship); National Fellowship for OBC Students; National Fellowship for SC Students; Maulana Azad National Fellowship for Minority Students schemes of University Grant Commission (UGC); Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB)- National Post-Doctoral Fellowship; Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) and ICAR International Fellowships for Doctoral Degree in agricultural and allied sciences, etc.

In order to further improve the quality of education several schemes are in place to identify and support the research activities of teachers working in the academic/research institutions. The schemes contributing in this endeavour are SERB- J C Bose National Fellowship; DST Swarnajayanti Fellowships Scheme, SERB Ramanujan Fellowship; SERB Visiting Advanced Joint Research (VAJRA) Faculty Scheme; SERB - Start-up Research Grant (SRG); SERB Core Research Support (CRG); SERB Intensification of Research in High Priority Areas (IRHPA); SERB Empowerment and Equity Opportunities for Excellence in Science (EMEQU); SERB Industry Relevant R&D (IRRDI); SERB Scientific and Useful Profound Research Advancement (SUPRA); SERB Teachers Associateship for Research Excellence (TARE) and ICAR Emeritus Professor.

Furthermore, The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has been implementing Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Award for school teachers programme of the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India. This award has been instituted to motivate the teachers to use ICT innovations in teaching.

(b) & (c): The investment in science and technology including science education has increased over the years to make our country a global force in science. The Ministry of Science and Technology's allocation for the financial years 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 was Rs.9515.85cr., Rs.10473.86cr., Rs.11636.62cr., Rs.12119.26cr. and Rs.12765.37cr. respectively. Furthermore, Government has announced the formation of National Research Foundation (NRF) to catalyse, facilitate, coordinate, seed, grow, and mentor research in academic institutions around the country, particularly at universities and colleges where research capacity is currently in a nascent stage. Rs. 50,000 crores has been allocated over the next 5 years for the NRF.

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