

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 345
ANSWERED ON 01/12/2021

STATUS OF RESEARCH PROJECTS UNDER THE SPARC SCHEME

345. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR:

Will the Minister of **EDUCATION** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been coordination on any research projects under the Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC) scheme with institutions in the ASEAN countries and Taiwan, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of funds that have been sanctioned towards projects in collaboration with these countries;

(c) whether Government is considering any coordination with Quad countries and Southeast Asian nations and Taiwan under the aegis of this scheme, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the other steps that Government is taking to strengthen educational ties with Southeast Asian nations and Taiwan?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) to (c): Under the Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC), the details of Joint Research Projects sanctioned in respect of Singapore (ASEAN country), Quad Countries (Australia, Japan, USA), and Taiwan are as under:

Country/Partner	Number of approved research projects	Total Sanctioned Amount (in INR)
Australia	53	331381321
Japan	12	65074728
Singapore	9	48181021
Taiwan	3	13388627
USA	116	699838718

(d): The other steps taken to strengthen educational ties with Southeast Asian Nations and Taiwan include bilateral Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs)/Educational Exchange Programmes (EEPs), scholarships/fellowships, inclusion of several Southeast Asian countries as focused countries for brand building under Study in India Programme,

MOUs/EEPs: India has EEPs/MOUs for Cooperation in Education with several South East Asian Nations such as Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Scholarships: The Ministry of Education facilitates offers of scholarships for Indian students received from foreign countries/institutions by notifying the same on the Ministry's website inviting applications and then recommending candidates to the donor country/institution (if requested to do so), who then select candidates for the award of scholarship.

These include scholarships offered to Indian students by South East Asian countries (such as Indonesia and Thailand)/institutions (such as University of Lampung, Indonesia; Chulabhorn Graduate Institute, Thailand and King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi, Thailand).

DIA fellowship (Doctoral Fellowship in India for ASEAN): Pursuant to the announcement made by the Hon'ble Prime Minister during the Plenary Session of the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit held at New Delhi on January 25, 2018, a grant of upto 1000 fellowships to students of ASEAN countries to pursue integrated Ph.D programmes in the IITs has been approved through the DIA fellowship scheme.

Study in India: Ministry of Education has launched the 'Study in India' (SII) programme, with the objectives to attract more number of foreign students, including students from Southeast Asian countries and Taiwan to study in India. The focused countries from Southeast Asia include: Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam.

In addition to the above, many Higher Education Institutions also have MoUs for research and academic collaboration with the counterparts in many foreign countries including Southeast Asian countries and Taiwan.
