

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 972
ANSWERED ON 31.07.2024

QS Rankings and Focus on Research

972. SHRI NARAYANA KORAGAPPA:

Will the Minister of *Education* be please to state:

- (a) what is the response of Government to the recent Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) rankings which indicate that Bharateeya universities demonstrate highest 14 percent performance improvement among G20 countries;
- (b) what is the response of Government to the country becoming the world's most rapidly expanding research centre;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that there is standout performance in computer science, chemistry, biological sciences, business studies, physics etc.; and
- (d) the details of efforts being made to push it further?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (d) The QS World University Rankings 2025 has been released on 4th June, 2024. As per the rankings compared with earlier years, there is a significant improvement in the performance of Indian universities. The table below depicts the top ten specific subject areas where the maximum number of Indian institutions are ranked:

S. No.	Specific Subject Areas	No. of Indian Institutions ranked		
		2024	2023	2022
1.	Computer Science & Information Systems	28	27	22
2.	Chemistry	28	27	23
3.	Physics & Astronomy	21	20	20
4.	Biological Sciences	22	21	19
5.	Business & Management Studies	26	21	17
6.	Engineering - Electrical & Electronics	17	15	15
7.	Engineering - Mechanical	20	16	13
8.	Engineering - Chemical	14	14	13
9.	Mathematics	14	16	13
10.	Economics & Econometrics	15	13	11

Recognising research as a core requisite for quality education, National Education Policy (NEP 2020) calls for Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to focus on research and innovation by setting up start-up incubation centres; technology development centres; centres in frontier areas of research; greater industry-academic linkages; and interdisciplinary research including humanities and social sciences research.

India's research work has received recognition at world level, during the past decade which is visible through its global position in various scientific parameters. India has witnessed a massive jump in its Global Innovation Index (GII) ranking from 66th position in 2013 to 40th in 2023 among 132 economies of the world. India is at 6th position (in 2022) in number of patent applications from 8th position (in 2012) as per WIPO's World Intellectual Property Indicators. India also occupies 3rd rank in terms of number of Ph.Ds awarded in Science and Engineering (S&E) as per 'Research and Development statistics at a glance 2022-23' published by Department of Science & Technology, Ministry of Science & Technology. The said report also mentions that the Gross Expenditure on Research & Development (GERD) in the country has been consistently increasing over the years and has more than doubled from Rs. 60,196.75 Crore in 2010-11 to Rs. 127,380.96 Crore in 2020-21. India ranked 3rd in 2022 (from 6th in 2012) in terms of total number of Science and Engineering publications as per the National Science Foundation (NSF) database of the United States.

Ministry of Education in 2015 launched National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) to rank Indian Higher Education Institutions. Since the launch of NIRF, there is an increase in no. of institutions that appear in QS Rankings. Ministry of Education has also organized series of workshops since 2021 to provide institutions with focused mentorship to support and sensitize institutions along with handholding whenever required.
