

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2277  
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2006  
NASSCOM  
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

**Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether a study undertaken by 'NASSCOM' revealed that scientists of Indian origin settled abroad have started returning to India;
- (b) if so, the number of such scientists who have returned to India during the last three years till date, year-wise;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to provide research facilities to such scientists;
- (d) the amount of funds allocated by the Government for research during the financial year 2005-2006;
- (e) whether the said allocation is in accordance with the foreign research norms; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) & (b): No Sir, NASSCOM has not carried out any study to track the number of scientists of Indian Origin settled abroad returning to India.

(c) Government has taken a number of initiatives and measures in order to improve the working conditions of Scientists to encourage their retention/return in the country. The various measures taken from time to time are:

# Intensification of Research in High Priority Areas (IRHPA).

# Fund for Improvement of S&T Infrastructure in Higher Educational Institutions (FIST).

# Setting up of centres of excellence/advanced studies in the universities and academic institutions.

# Creation of core groups of professionals with necessary modern facilities required for pursuing research in new and frontier areas of science.

# Creation of new scientific Departments/Organisations.

# Fast Track Scheme for Young Scientists.

# Mission HOPE (Higher Education – Opportunities for Promoting Entrepreneurship) with the aim of converting aspirations to real enterprises (CARE).

# Contact programmes to attract and motivate brilliant young scientists to take up R&D as a career.

# Diamond Jubilee Research Interns Award Scheme, JRF-GATE and Entrepreneurship support to research scholars.

# Early Faculty Induction Programme, which aims at attracting bright and young under-graduate students in Engineering and Technology/Pharmacy/Architecture, etc. to take teaching as their career.

# S&T based training for entrepreneurial development.

# The Ramanujan Fellowships.

# The JC Bose National Fellowships.

# The Ramanna Fellowships.

# Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Fellowships.

# Swarnajayanti Fellowships.

# SERC Visiting Fellowships.

# Junior/Senior research fellowships, research associateships and senior research associateships.

# Better Opportunities for Young Scientists in Chosen Areas of Science and Technology (BOYSCAST) fellowship to visit international laboratories and institutions.

# SERC Individual Projects.

# Financial assistance to scientists to participate in international conferences and training programmes

# Opportunities to distinguished scientists of Indian origin settled abroad for short term technical assignments to assist in frontier and emerging areas of S&T.

# Post-doctoral Fellowships in Biotechnology and Life Sciences.

(d)to(f): The Plan Expenditure for Central Government Scientific Department/Agencies has steadily been stepped up. The Plan Outlay for the year 2005-06 is Rs. 6553.74 crores. There are no international norms for this purpose. Each country makes allocation for R&D as per their priorities.