

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:398  
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2008  
TALENT SEARCH SCHEME OF DRDO  
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**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) proposes to launch talent search scheme to attract Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) in order to overcome attrition of its scientists;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of NRI scientists and engineers who submitted their applications to DRDO during 2007; and
- (d) the number of scientists selected by DRDO so far and the estimated number of scientists and engineers proposed to be selected under the scheme?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): The talent search scheme for attracting Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) in DRDO already exists. Under this scheme, any NRI willing to return to the country may apply directly to Recruitment and Assessment Centre (RAC)/DRDO laboratories for his/her possible induction in DRDO. NRIs are interviewed through video conferencing and offered initially ad-hoc appointments, if their qualifications and experiences are of direct interest to DRDO. This scheme is not to overcome attrition of scientists, but to induct talent in DRDO.

(c) A total 54 number of NRI scientists/engineers submitted their applications to DRDO during 2007.

(d) Under the scheme, so far 70 scientists have been selected by the DRDO including 19 scientists in the year 2007 and the estimated number of scientists proposed to be selected are approximately 20 per year.