

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2841
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2010
ENCOURAGEMENT TO YOUNG SCIENTISTS
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Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Government for encouragement and promotion of young scientists for carrying advance research for development of new technologies;
- (b) whether the Government has organized/proposed to organize some competitions to identify such talent; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSION; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) to (c): Developing and nurturing of human resources in Science and Technology has always been on top of the Government's agenda. A number of schemes have been instituted by the Government for encouraging Young Scientists, and also for talented students. These are as follows:

- (i) INSPIRE (Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research) - The programme has one component SHE (Scholarship for Higher Education) for supporting top ranking students at 10+2 level for higher education in science stream. In addition INSPIRE Fellowships are provided to top rankers for pursuing PhD.
- (ii) SwarnaJayanti Fellowships – given to outstanding young scientists' upto age of 40 years to pursue leadership in basic research.
- (iii) Fast Track Scheme for Young Scientist – provides support in a project mode with provision for salary for self.
- (iv) Better Opportunities for Young Scientists in an Chosen Areas of Science and Technology (BOYSCAST) – for getting training abroad in advance areas of S&T.
- (v) Shyama Prasad Mookerjee Fellowships and KS Krishnan Fellowships
- (vi) Ramanujam Fellowships and Ramalingaswamy Fellowships – for attracting young achievers abroad, back to India
- (vii) CSIR programme on Youth for leadership in Science (CPYLS) and Biotechnology Post Doctoral Research Associateship & Overseas Fellowships and Diamond Jubilee Research Interns Award Scheme.

Apart from these schemes, there are schemes launched by the Government to identify talented students through various competitive examinations and by evaluating the candidates for their creative talent. These schemes include the following:

- (i) National Eligibility Test (NET) conducted by the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for providing research fellowships
- (ii) INSPIRE (Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research) – A new initiative by the Government to encourage students. One component of the scheme provides Scholarships for Higher Education (SHE) the top 1% of all boards across the country through for pursuing basic science.
- (iii) Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana (KVPY) and National Science Olympiad Programme aim to select students to pursue higher education in basic sciences and participate in International Science Olympiads.