GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:531
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2013
LACK OF INTEREST IN R D
M.Thambidurai Dr. ;Venugopal Shri P.

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that there is severe lack of interest on the part of the students to take to Research & Development (R&D) in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government has any data from the foreign countries/foreign universities about students taking R&D as a career, after the graduation/post-graduation level and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to encourage the students to undertake R&D in a big way?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) & (b): No Madam. As per the data provided by the University Grants Commission (UGC) the number of research degrees (Ph.Ds) awarded has increased from 10,781 in 2008-09 to 16,093 in 2011-12, thus registering a growth of 49.27% over three years. As per the data compiled by the UNESCO Institute of Statistics, India's contribution to world's research publications has increased from 26,000 in 2002 to 44,000 in 2007.

(c): As per a paper published by Yale University, the number of Ph.Ds of the United States of America (USA) and China increased from 40,024 and 14,706 in 2002 to 41,464 and 48,112 in 2007 respectively. As per data compiled by the UNESCO Institute of Statistics between 2002 and 2007, the contribution to the world publications of the following countries was; Brazil − 16,000 to 29,000, Russia - 31,000 to 32,000, China 62,000 to 1,94,000, United Kingdom − 93,000 to 1,25,000, USA − 3,15,000 to 3,58,000 and Japan − 92,000 to 98,000

(d): The Government has taken various measures for the promotion and growth of post graduate level studies and research in the country. In scientific areas, these include the successive increase in plan allocations for Scientific Departments, the setting up of new institutions for science education and research, the creation of centres of excellence and facilities in emerging and frontline areas in academic and national institutes, the establishment of new and attractive fellowships, strengthening the infrastructure of Research & Development (R&D) in universities, encouraging public-private R&D partnerships, the recognition of R&D units and national awards for outstanding R&D for industries etc. The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) had set up a Task Force for rejuvenation of Basic Scientific Research in Indian Universities under the Chairmanship of Prof. M.M. Sharma, which has now been converted into an Empowered Committee to implement the recommendations of the Task Force.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) is implementing the schemes of Universities with Potential for Excellence, Centre with Potential for Excellence in Particular Area, College with Potential for Excellence, Major Research Projects / Minor Research Project, Special Assistance Programme, Basic Scientific Research and Research Fellowships.

The All India Council for Technical Education has informed us that it is implementing various schemes to encourage research in technical subjects such as Career Awards, Post Graduate Course and Research Work, Research promotional Work, National Doctoral Fellowships, Faculty Development Programme, Setting up of Research Parks, Innovation Promotion Schemes, Post Doctoral Fellowships, Teachers Research Fellowships etc.

The MHRD is also funding research in the Social Sciences and Humanities through its various research councils, viz., the Indian Institute of Advanced Study (IIAS), the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), the Indian Council of Philosophical Research (ICPR), the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) and the National Council of Rural Institutes (NCRI).