

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1033  
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2009  
SHORTAGE OF SCIENTISTS  
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**Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there is a acute shortage of qualified scientists for Research and Development in various research institutes/laboratories under the Ministry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there is migration of these scientists to private sector;
- (d) if so, the number of scientists who have resigned and joined private sector from these institutes during last 3 years; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to retain these qualified scientists in these institutions and stop exodus of talent from the country?

**Answer**

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

(a) No Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) & (d): The extent of migration of scientists from the research institutes/laboratories in the Ministry of Science & Technology is insignificant. Only 18 scientists have migrated to private sector during the last 3 years.

(e) The Government, from time to time, have taken several measures to retain scientists in these institutions and stop the exodus of talent from the country. These include:

# Introduction of new and attractive fellowships;

# 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;

# Increase in the outlay for science and technology sector in successive Five Year Plan;

# Setting up of centres of excellence/advanced studies /incubation centres in the universities, academic institutions and laboratories;

# Manpower development training/re-training programmes through associate-ships/ fellowships;

# Fast Track Scheme for Young Scientists;

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

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

# Scientists are given financial assistance to participate in international conferences and training programmes abroad;

# Invitation to distinguished men and women of Indian origin settled abroad for short term technical assignments to assist in frontier and emerging areas of S&T;

# Early Faculty Induction Programme, which aims at attracting bright and young under-graduate students in Engineering and Technology/Pharmacy/Architecture, etc. as a good career avenue.