

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:422

ANSWERED ON:25.02.2015

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCIENTISTS OF INDIAN ORIGIN

Chavan Shri Harishchandra Deoram;Patel Smt. Jayshreeben

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide more research opportunities to the scientists and technology experts of Indian origin residing in foreign countries and to bring them back to pursue their research in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the funds earmarked for the said purpose; and
- (c) the steps taken/ being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) to (c): Yes Madam. The Government has taken several steps to provide more research opportunities to scientists and technology experts of Indian origin residing in foreign countries and to bring them back to pursue their research in the country. Ramanujan Fellowship of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Ramalingaswami re-entry Fellowship of Department of Biotechnology (DBT) are targeted schemes aimed to attract highly skilled Indian researchers working overseas by providing them attractive avenue to pursue their R&D interests in Indian institutions. Under the Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) Faculty Scheme of DST, young Indian citizens and people of Indian origin including Non Resident Indian (NRI)/ Person of Indian Origin (PIO) status with PhD (in science, mathematics, engineering, pharmacy, medicine, and agriculture related subjects) from any recognized university in the world are offered contractual research positions in Indian Institutions / Universities to carry out independent research and emerge as a leader in future science & technology. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has a scheme to attract Scientists/ Technologists of Indian Origin (STIO) under which they are appointed at an identified CSIR laboratory so as to nurture a research field in their area of expertise. The Departments under the Ministry have ensured sufficient flow of funds depending on the requirement. Annually, Rs. 35 crore for 186 Ramanujan Fellows, Rs. 29 crore for 160 Ramalingaswami Fellows and Rs. 20 crore for 116 INSPIRE Faculty have been provided to pursue research in the country.