GOVERNMENT OF INDIA SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2366 ANSWERED ON:11.03.2015 SCHOLARSHIP FELLOWSHIP Chinnaraj Shri Gopalakrishnan

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

(a) whether the scholarship/fellowship amount to the Research Scholars have not been paid regularly;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the representations/complaints received in this regard during each of the last three years;

(c) whether many research institutions have not granted/paid recently increased fellowship to Research Fellows;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor, institution-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard and the deadline fixed, if any, for granting them fellowship amount?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The scholarships/fellowships to research students are provided through various streams and are administered primarily by Central Government Ministries/ Departments/ Agencies like University Grant Commission (UGC), Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR), Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Department of Science and Technology (DST), Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Department of Space (DOS), Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO), Department of Electronics & Information Technology (DeitY) etc. As far as the fellowships at pre-revised rates are concerned, the disbursement of funds by the Central Government Departments/ Agencies to the local Universities/Institutes for onward payment to research students has been done regularly for those Universities /Institutes who have fulfilled timely submission of financial documents to the funding agencies. The Government has received a few representations in the past for upward revision of fellowship amounts along with other demands such as regular payment of fellowships, etc.

(c) to (e): Fellowship for eligible researchers working under MHRD, UGC, DST, DBT, ICAR, DRDO programmes have since been revised. In case of extramural research projects of DST and DBT, the Institutions / Project Investigators have been advised to pay revised emoluments to research scholars from the available project grant. The research fellows getting direct fellowship from DST and DBT will be provided enhanced fellowship, including arrears, from next financial year. CSIR has not revised the fellowship yet. The Government will ensure payment of revised fellowship to eligible researchers from 2015-16 onwards.