

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2631  
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2015  
Agreement between SERB and CMU  
Charitra Shri Ram;Parthipan Shri R.

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to spend 2.4 million dollars on advanced studies in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) by outstanding Indian students at the Carnegie Mellow University (CMU), US;
- (b) if so, the details and present status thereof;
- (c) whether an agreement was signed between India's Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) and CMU and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of benefits likely to accrue as a result of this agreement; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES

(SHRI.Y. S. CHOWDARY)

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(a) to (c): Yes, Madam. The Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), a Statutory body of the Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) to support a minimum of 5 outstanding Indian students per year for doctoral research in identified areas of Science, Engineering and Mathematics at CMU. SERB, through the MoU, proposed to spend 2.4 million dollars and CMU will spend at least 5 million dollars on Indian students, who will be selected during 2016-17 to 2020-21. This Overseas Doctoral Fellowship programme is aimed to build national capacity where the talent supply of researchers in areas of interest to the country is sub-critical.

(d) & (e): The Program in the long run will create critical mass of performing scientists in niche areas where there is shortage of scientists in the country. The country can also utilize the expertise gained by these young scientists to strengthen/initiate national programmes in the domain knowledge of interest to the country. The Board has also signed MoU with other top ranking institutions like Cambridge University, Stanford University etc. to build expertise in other areas of interest to our country.

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