

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 319
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10/11/2010**

INSPIRE SCHEME

319. SHRI K.J.S.P. REDDY:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is implementing Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired (INSPIRE) programme in some States including Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the funds allocated and spent on the programme during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (d) the number of students benefited as a result thereof; and
- (e) the parameters adopted in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार); पृथ्वी विज्ञान राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार); प्रधानमंत्री कार्यालय में राज्य मंत्री; कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत तथा पेंशन राज्य मंत्री; तथा संसदीय कार्य राज्य मंत्री

(पृथ्वीराज चव्हाण)

(a) & (b): Yes Madam. The Government of India has launched a new scheme in December 2008 titled "Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE)" to attract talented youth to study and pursue careers with science. Since then, the Scheme is in operation in most States and Union Territories (UTs), including Andhra Pradesh. The main components of the INSPIRE are : a) Scheme for Early Attraction of Talents for Science (SEATS) providing INSPIRE Award of Rs 5000 for a total of ten lakh young learners of the age group of 10-15 years once in their school career during the current Plan Period and mentorship through global science leaders including Nobel Laureates and Indian leaders in science at a science camp for the top 1% performers in the Class X examination every year for a period of five years; b) Scholarships for Higher Education (SHE) for the students in the age group of 17-22 years @ Rs 80,000/- per year for continuing science education at B.Sc and M.Sc. levels and c) Assured Opportunity for Research Careers (AORC) for young researchers in the age group of 22-32 years for 5 years to pursue doctoral research in science backed by an assured career opportunity scheme for another period of five years on completion of their Ph D.

(c) While the funds in the INSPIRE Scheme are not allocated state-wise, the award/ scholarship/fellowship is directly provided to students in all components of the Scheme. A statement showing the funds allocated and spent on the programme since the inception of the Scheme is given in Annexure-1

(d) The number of students benefited from the INSPIRE scheme is given in Annexure – 2. Apart from this, more than 150 Science Camps covering about 45,000 students of Class XI standard have been organized till now in various parts of the country to provide an opportunity to select school students for interaction with national and international mentors.

(e) The broad parameters adopted in all the INSPIRE components are to provide awards/scholarship/fellowship to students at various levels of study utilizing the existing examination methods as the selection process with innovative and transparent criteria. While students of Class VI to Class X of every school in the country are eligible to receive INSPIRE Award and the selections are to be made on merit by the Principals/Headmasters/Headmistresses, the science camps is participated by students who are top 1% performer in their Class X Board examinations. The INSPIRE Scholarship is provided to students who are common top 1% both in Class X and Class XII Board examinations and pursuing basic and natural sciences at graduation level. While the INSPIRE Fellowship for pursuing PhD is provided to 1st Rank holder in the university level examinations in post-graduate courses for any branch of science, engineering, medicine and agriculture, the INSPIRE post-doctoral program is provided on competitive research basis.

Allocations/ Expenditure in INSPIRE Scheme and SHE from 2008-09 to 2010-11

Sr. No.	Name of the Scheme	Expenditure (Rs in Crores)		Allocations (Rs in Crores)
		2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
1.	Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE)" #	40.0	78.5	240.0
2.	Scholarship for Higher Education (SHE)	85.0	26.5	40.0

Two Components namely Scheme for Early Attraction of Talents for Science (SEATS) and Assured Opportunity for Research Careers (AORC) are covered in INSPIRE.

Annexure-2

State-wise Number of students in INSPIRE Scheme and SHE during the year 2009-10 & 2010-11

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2009-10		2010-11		Amount released in 2009-10 for Organizing Exhibitions of INSPIRE Awardees (Rs in Lakh)	No. of Students Selected for INSPIRE Scholarship till now	No. of Students Selected for INSPIRE Fellowship till now
		No. of Students selected for INSPIRE Award	Amount Sanctioned for issuance of INSPIRE Award @ Rs 5000 per award (Rs in lakh)	No. of Students selected for INSPIRE Award	Amount Sanctioned for issuance of INSPIRE Award @ Rs 5000 per award (Rs in lakh)			
1	Rajasthan	35217	1760.85			340.0	49	4
2	Punjab	5934	296.70	4665	233.25	150.0	23	26
3	Madhya Pradesh	31379	1568.95	1591	79.55	505.0	4	5
4	Himachal Pradesh	943	47.15			40.0	8	4
5	Tripura	47	2.35			3.0	-	-
6	Delhi	673	33.65	630	31.50	35.0	23	26
7	Karnataka	89	4.45	15128	756.40	6.0	10	22
8	Goa	50	2.50			3.0	5	-
9	Meghalaya	106	5.30			6.0	-	-
10	Puducherry	122	6.10			6.0	-	2
11	Andaman & Nicobar	21	1.05			3.0	-	-
12	Daman & Diu	45	2.25			3.0	-	-
13	Chandigarh	85	4.25			6.0	-	-
14	Lakshadweep	09	0.45			3.0	-	-
15	West Bengal	3736	186.80			100.0	640	23
16	Gujarat	16249	812.45			150.0	1	3
17	Kerala	2342	117.10			70.0	33	3
18	Tamil Nadu	10267	513.35			185.0	7	14
19	Haryana	2273	113.65			120.0	12	8
20	Bihar	6645	332.25			170.0	15	2
21	Sikkim	22	1.10			3.0	-	-
22	Uttar Pradesh	9975	498.75			730.0	127	12
23	Andhra Pradesh			26797	1339.85		31	5
24	Assam			1093	54.65		3	11
25	Jammu Kashmir			3400	170.00		5	4
26	Maharashtra			16040	802.00		11	10
27	Jharkhand						20	3
28	Orissa						10	6
29	Uttarakhand						31	2
30	Manipur						20	-
31	Chattisgarh						1	-
	Sub-Total	126229	6311.45	69344	3467.20	2637.0	1089	195
	Students admitted through National Level Competitive Examinations at IITs, IISERs, etc.						2500	
	Grand Total	126229	6311.45	69344	3467.20	2637.0	3589	195
