

Research scholars upset over DST delay in release of stipends

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Context

• For several weeks, research scholars spanning a range of Central and State universities and scientific disciplines across India, have been pleading with the Department of Science and Technology (DST) for their research stipends.

INSPIRE Fellowship Program

- "Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE)" is an programme sponsored and managed by the Department of Science & Technology for attraction of talent to Science.
- Vision **Build the critical human resource** pool to strengthen the science and technology system and **expand R&D base of the country.**
- Goal Attract Young Talent to opt research as a career. A striking feature of INSPIRE Scheme is that it does not conduct any competitive exam(s) for identification of talent at any level. It relies on the efficacy of the existing educational structure for identification of talent.
 - **INSPIRE INTERNSHIP** aims to provide exposure to the top 1% students at Class X Board level by organizing Science Camps either during summer or winter which provides opportunity to them to interact with Science icons from India and abroad, including Nobel Laureates, to experience the joys of scientific pursuit. These science camps nourish the curiosity of students in science, help them to think out-of-the box and attract students at an early age of 16-17 years to choose science subjects for further studies.
 - SCHOLARSHIP for HIGHER EDUCATION (SHE) component of the INSPIRE aims to encourage meritorious students to study basic and
 natural sciences at undergraduate level through attractive scholarship and mentorship opportunities. SHE offers 12,000 scholarships
 every year to meritorious students in the age group 17-22 years.
 - **INSPIRE FELLOWSHIP** component offers 1000 Fellowships every year to bright students in the age group of 22-27 years to pursue Ph.D. in basic and applied sciences including engineering, medicine, agriculture and veterinary sciences.
 - **INSPIRE FACULTY FELLOWSHIP** component provides opportunities to 100 persons every year with Ph.D. qualification in the age group of 27-32 years for 5 years to carry out research in both basic and applied science areas including engineering, medicine, agriculture and veterinary sciences for establishing themselves as independent researchers. It grants an attractive fellowship for a duration of 5 years.

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