



[Discussion for improvement of professional researcher system] Representative Sang-min Lee's press release

- Representative Sang-min Lee (Democratic Party's Special Committee on Science and Technology and Chairman of the Special Committee on Information and Communication, Daejeon Yuseong) hosted the "Forum for the Improvement of Professional Researchers" on the July 23, 2019.
- With the debate over the lack of support for the maintenance of the professional researcher system and the reduction of the number of specialized researchers in 2016, the Ministry of National Defense announced a reduction in the number of specialists in the field of science and technology, academics and industry alike, the Ministry of Science and ICT gather together the • Korean Federation of Science Societies • Korea Academy of Science and Technology • Korean Engineering Academy • Korean Medical Academy • National Council of Natural Science • Korean Council of Technical University Presidents • Korea Industrial Technology Promotion Association • the four major science institutes (KAIST, GIST, DGIST, UNIST).
- Until now, talks have been held on how to improve the system of professional researchers under the slogan of "developing the military service system of science and engineering, which grows into an innovative leader in the era of the 4th Industrial Revolution," but the reduction was announced due to the reduction of the school age population.
- The scientific community through presentations will explain the concept of creative human resources for AI defense, the context of the alternative service system for science and engineering military service, and how professional researchers play a role in developing science and engineering to strengthen national defense capabilities.

- In addition, the industrial technology industry also emphasized the need for professional research personnel, saying, "The quota reduction promoted by the Ministry of National Defense has served as a system to strengthen competitiveness in science and technology and to utilize manpower for master's and doctorate degrees in small and medium enterprises for 40 years since its implementation. Recently, the number of companies applying for military service has increased recently, but they are not able to meet the demand at present."
- Representative Sang-min Lee said, "Defence forces are not determined simply by the number of troops, and science and technology is becoming more relevant in the 4th Industrial Revolution. It is not practical for the Defense Ministry to prepare for future defense capabilities only through tactics."
- Representative Lee added, "The special researcher system should be expanded to help eliminate the labor shortage of SMEs, reduce the outflow of advanced minds, and attract future generations to select science and engineering."