

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:915  
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2005  
ASSISTANCE TO BIO TECHNOLOGY  
Nayak Smt. Archana

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to strengthen installation support and research capacity in the area of bio-technology;
- (b) if so, the proposed flexible support extended by the Government and the progress made so far; and
- (c) the fields in which excellence of bio-technology are to be created?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) & (b) The Department of Biotechnology provides grant-in-aid support for research & development, and capacity building in the area of biotechnology to universities, research institutes and not-for-profit organizations across the country. In addition grant-in-aid is also provided for creation of Centers of Excellence in emerging areas. During the last 5 years more than 2000 R&D Projects have been supported; 74 universities have been supported for post-graduate biotechnology programmes, 60 universities and research institutes have been provided support for bioinformatics network centers. In addition 57 biotechnology infrastructure facilities have been established across the country for cutting edge basic research and process and product development.

(c) To promote excellence in biotechnology it is proposed to establish Centers of Excellence in the areas of:

- # Translational research in public health
- # Stem cell
- # Marine biotechnology
- # Animal biotechnology
- # Nutritional genomics and food biotechnology
- # Herbal medicine
- # Molecular medicine
- # Bio-materials and devices and
- # Bio-informatics

In addition centers would also be supported in other frontier emerging areas of Biotechnology.