

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:271

ANSWERED ON:11.08.2006

NATIONAL NANO-TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT .

Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

(a) Whether the scientists have demanded establishment of National nanotechnology development fund and biotechnology development fund under the control of autonomous management for development of these two hi-tech areas;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) Whether any suggestion has been received to set up a National Institute of Nanotechnology and Biotechnology on the pattern of IITs; and;

(d) If so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government thereon?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT AS REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 271 FOR 11.08.2006 REGARDING 'NATIONAL NANO-TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT'

(a), (b) & (c) : The scientists who attended the Knowledge Summit 2006 organized by the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India at New Delhi in March 2006 recommended that a National Nanotechnology Development Fund and a National Biotechnology Development Fund be created under the control of an autonomous management for development of these two hi-tech areas. The recommendations of the summit were all encompassing and emphasized educational and HRD programmes, basic research, institution building, infrastructural support, industry-institution synergies, etc. in addition to emphasizing the funding aspects. They also suggested that new Indian Institutes of Nano Technology and Bio Technology (IINBTs) be created along the lines of Indian Institutes of Information Technology

(IITs) or the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs).

(d) : In the area of Nano Science and Technology, the Government has major plans to launch a variety of educational and HRD programmes, R&D programmes, establish centres of excellence, promote institution-industry linked projects through increased public private partnerships, promoting entrepreneurship through establishment of business incubators, etc. as part of its Nano Science and Technology Mission. In the area of Biotechnology, the Government has already been running very successful PG programmes in a large number of institutions setting a benchmark for higher education in biotechnology in the country. The Government has also established a number of R&D institutions in biotechnology and, among other things, given a boost to public private partnerships in innovation through its Small Business Innovation Research Initiative (SBIRI). A number of projects in Nanobiotechnology have also been funded for the development of novel platforms for diagnostic kits and delivery of biomolecules. The Government is committed to the development of Nano Technology and Bio Technology in a comprehensive fashion in the country and the novel suggestions made during the said Knowledge Summit would be useful while planning and implementing new programmes.