

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4146

ANSWERED ON:25.08.2004

EXPENDITURE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

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

- (a) the percentage of Gross Domestic Product spent on research and development work by the Government during the last three years;
- (b) whether some organisations and scientists have lodged their protest about meagre expenditure on this work and demanded increase of the fund on this account;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

- (a) As per the latest available official statistics, the Research and Development expenditure as percentage of Gross National Product (GNP) at national level for the years 1996-97, 1997-98 and 1998-99 was 0.72%, 0.77% and 0.81% respectively and the estimated figure for the years 1999-2000 and 2000-01 are 0.87% and 0.94% respectively.
- (b) to (d) No Sir. However, the Government envisages to raise the level of investment on Science and Technology to at least 2% by the end of 10th Plan with enhanced participation in R&D investment by industry. The 10th Plan Science and Technology outlay for scientific agencies has been increased from Rs. 12022.17 crores in 9th Plan to Rs. 25243.00 crores.