

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2620

ANSWERED ON:16.03.2007

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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

- (a) the details of the Government schemes for research and development and upgradation of existing facilities in science and technology in the country;
- (b) whether these schemes have achieved the desired results;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details of funds allocated for the above schemes during each of the last three years;
- (e) whether the science and technology institutes have not been utilising the full budgetary allocations;
- (f) if so, the details and the reasons therefor; (g) whether the Government has any plan to set up a Committee to draft document of an integrated programme for science and technology development; and (h) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (f): Sir, during the year 2000 Government of India through the Department of Science and Technology has initiated a new scheme "Fund for Improvement of Science and Technology Infrastructure in Universities and Higher Educational Institutions (FIST)" for upgrading of infrastructure and facilities for research in science and technology in departments of universities and related academic institutions. Under this programme, so far more than 950 science, engineering and technology departments have been supported in about 250 universities and academic institutions with a yearly investment of Rs 75 crores per year in the last three years. The Scheme has enabled increased research efforts attracting fresh talent in the various departments. The overall utilisation of funds by the science and technology departments in universities and academic institutions is more than 95 percent for augmentation of research and development facilities under the scheme.

(g)& (h): No Sir. Government has no such plan at present.