

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3243
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2008
R D FOR SERIOUS DISEASES
Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh

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

- (a) whether there is provision for research and development of modern technique in respect of serious diseases like cancer, TB and other fatal diseases;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the posts sanctioned, filled and vacant for the said work;
- (d) whether there is provision for increasing the number of posts and laboratories as per the requirement;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the details of the amount spent for R&D during the last three years, till date?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (KAPIL SIBAL)

- (a) & (b) Yes, Sir; there is the provision for Research and Development (R&D) of modern techniques in respect of serious diseases like cancer, TB and other fatal diseases. The Department of Biotechnology is funding R&D in various research centers/Universities on different cancers, tuberculosis and other fatal diseases. There are about 70 R&D projects on tuberculosis; 100 on cancer and about 200 on other fatal diseases. The R&D pertains to early diagnostics and prognosis using genomics and proteomics approaches; vaccine development and basic research related to pathobiology of the diseases.
- (c) The department provides provision for engaging scientific/technical manpower/personnel in the funded projects. However, such provision is co-terminus with the project. On an average, 2 Scientific /Technical personnel are provided fellowships/emoluments under such projects. No regular post is sanctioned under R&D projects.
- (d) & (e) Not Applicable.
- (f) The total funding is about Rs.30,000.00 lakhs to pursue R&D of such diseases in the last three years.