

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:973
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2010
AGREEMENT WITH IRAN ON S & T
Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahab

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

- (a) whether Iran and India have signed an agreement for co-operation in the field of science and technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the salient features of the agreement; and
- (d) the manner in which the agreement benefits the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) & (b): Yes Madam. An Inter-Governmental Agreement on Cooperation in the fields of Science and Technology between Government of Republic of India and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran was signed in New Delhi on January 25, 2003.

(c) The salient features of the Agreement are:

1. Setting up of a Joint Committee for determining the areas of mutual cooperation and formulation of Programme of Cooperation on regular basis.
2. Finalizing subsidiary agreements between the respective organizations, enterprises and institutions relating to science & technology.
3. Promoting cooperation in mutually agreed upon areas, such as,
 - (i) Information and Communication Technology;
 - (ii) Biotechnology;
 - (iii) Pharmaceuticals Research and
 - (iv) Food Technology and others through visits and exchange of experts, holding scientific and technological workshops, implementation of Joint Projects, training and exchange of experiences in regard of Science and Technology infrastructure, women entrepreneurship and technology in rural areas.

(d) The agreement envisages development of cooperation in the mutually agreed areas of science and technology on the basis of equality and mutual advantage. It helps in strengthening the bilateral relation between India and Iran in science and technology.