

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5301
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2010
FUND FOR MICRO NANO TECHNOLOGICAL INVENTIONS
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Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to set up any special fund to introduce micro/nano technological inventions in the market;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the funds allocated for the purpose; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government to promote micro/nano technological inventions in the country?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): Promotion of research in nanotechnology and development of applications based on nanotechnology form important part of various programmes launched by the Government to promote this emerging technology in the country. It forms an important component of the Mission on Nano Science and Technology (Nano Mission) launched by the Government in 2007 with an allocation of Rs. 1000 crore for 5 years. Under Nano Mission, development of thermo-regulated textiles, smart textiles with antibacterial, self-cleaning and flame retardant properties, new-generation auto filters based on nanofibres, nanofillers for tyre applications, water purifications systems, nanomaterial-based solar cells, etc. have been undertaken jointly by academic and research institutions and industry. Under the Nano Mission, an Institute of Nano Science & Technology (INST) is also being established at Mohali (Punjab) at a total cost of Rs. 142.45 crore, which will focus on application in agri and bio nanotechnology. Other scientific agencies and institutions of the Government are also engaged in promoting nanotechnology development and inventions in their domain areas. For example, advanced facilities for research and development activities in micro and nano -electronics have been set up. A nano-silver-based water purification system has already been transferred to the industry. A nano-silver-based gel for treatment of burns and wound infections is undergoing clinical trials. Some nanocides, which can control wide spectrum of insects, have been developed and are at various levels of evaluation. A number of projects on nanoparticle-based drug delivery, diagnostic devices, tissue engineering, smart packaging materials, nanofillers for wood applications, etc. are currently under implementation.