

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5339

ANSWERED ON:28.04.2010

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

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

- (a) whether India ranks low in the field of scientific research and development in the world;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of patents for new investments applied for by the Indian scientists in comparison to the developed and developing countries;
- (c) whether India's investment in science and technology is also low as compared to the other developing countries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

**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 (PRITHVI RAJ CHAVAN)

(a) & (b): India's global position in the field of scientific research, as measured by the number of research papers published has improved from 13th position in 1996 to 10th position in 2009 as per the Scopus International database. The number of patent applications for new inventions filed at Indian Patent Office by the Indian scientists and the scientists of other developed and developing countries during 2007-08 was 6040 and 21978 respectively.

(c) & (d): According to the available official statistics, India's investment on R&D in science and technology as percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is lower compared to that of China, but it is higher compared to several developing countries. The R&D expenditure of various countries as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is annexed.

(e) The Government have taken various measures to increase the expenditure on Science & Technology in the Country. These measures include higher allocation of Rs.75,304.00 crores in XI Plan as compared to Rs.25,301.35 crores in X Plan for setting up of new institutions for science education and research, creation of centres of excellence and facilities in emerging and frontline areas in academic and national institutes, induction of new and attractive fellowships such as Junior Research Fellowships (JRF), Senior Research Fellowships (SRF) and INSPIRE, strengthening of infrastructure for R&D in universities, grants for industrial R&D projects, and national awards for outstanding R&D etc, encouraging public-private R&D partnerships and tax incentives for R&D.

Further, the Government have proposed to enhance the weighted deduction on expenditure incurred on in-house R&D and the weighted deduction on payment made to National Laboratories, research associations, colleges, universities and other institutions, for scientific research.