

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:414
ANSWERED ON:25.08.2010
ASSISTANCE TO STATE COUNCILS
Shantha J.

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

- (a) whether assistance is provided to the State Councils for development of science and technology;
- (b) if so, the assistance provided and utilised by the States during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;
- (c) whether the States have urged the Union Government for identification and providing solution to location/region specific problems; and
- (d) if so, the follow up action taken thereon?

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) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT AS REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.414 FOR 25-08-2010 REGARDING 'ASSISTANCE TO STATE COUNCILS'.

(a): Yes, Madam. The Department of Science and Technology has a scheme entitled 'State Science and Technology Programme' under which assistance is provided to State Science and Technology Councils.

(b): A statement is attached giving year-wise and state-wise details of assistance provided and utilized by the States during the last three years (2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10).

(c) & (d): No, Madam. However, the Department of Science and Technology periodically organizes All India Interaction Meetings/Brain-storming Meetings/Review Meetings/Thematic Workshops involving State Science and Technology Councils/Departments, Central Agencies and Planning Commission to identify Location/Region specific problem areas for Science and Technology interventions. In addition, the Department provides financial assistance to States/UTs to conduct studies for identification and providing solution to location/region specific problems. So far, 20 States have availed financial assistance to undertake such studies. The Department also provides financial support to States for setting up demonstration plants based on technologies sourced from national laboratories, universities etc. to arrive at technological solutions to such problems.