

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3642

ANSWERED ON:15.12.2011

DISCOVERY OF DRUGS

Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram;Jindal Shri Naveen

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the present position in respect of pharmaceutical drug discovery and research in the country ;
- (b) the total number of patents filed and granted to Indian companies in the field of drug discovery during the last three years, year-wise;
- (c) the steps being taken to improve the pharmaceutical drug discovery and research;
- (d) whether the Government has set up proposes to set up a venture capital fund for supporting pharmaceutical drug discovery and research infrastructure development projects in the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the guidelines for investment from the said fund?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

(a): Research in Pharmaceutical drug discovery is part of activities of a large number of institutions of higher learning and research institutes offering M. Pharma, Doctoral and like degrees in Pharmaceutical sector in the country. These institutions are largely administered in the Government sector by DBT, DST, CSIR etc. These focus on various aspects of research in drug discovery. National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) at Mohali under Department of Pharmaceuticals has focused on research areas like Tuberculosis, Leishmaniasis, infectious diseases, Diabetes, etc.

(b): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c): As per the available information following Government programmes provide for assistance in drug discovery and development in the country:

S.No.	Name of Programme	Administered by
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1.	Drugs & Pharmaceutical Research Programme (DPRP)	Department of Science & Technology (DST)
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2.	Small Business in Industry Research Initiative (SBIRI)	Department of Biotechnology (DBT)
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3.	Biotechnology Industry R&D Assistance Programme (BIRAP)	Department of Biotechnology (DBT)
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4.	Biotechnology industry Partnership Programme (BIPP)	Department of Biotechnology (DBT)
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(d) & (e): No decision to set up a venture capital fund for supporting Pharmaceuticals drug discovery and research infrastructure development projects in the country has been taken in the Department of Pharmaceuticals.