

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:544

ANSWERED ON:15.03.2012

INVESTMENT IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Dhruvanarayana Shri R. ;Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu;Semmalai Shri S.

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

- (a) the position of India in the field of Science and Technology in comparison to other countries of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC);
- (b) the total investment in the field of Scientific Research and Development and its share in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at present alongwith the target set in terms of investment in Scientific Research and Technology for the Twelfth Five Year Plan;
- (c) the progress made with regard to investment in Scientific Research and Technology in the country over the past decade;
- (d) whether a significant impetus is likely to be given on promotion of Science and Technology and public-private partnership in research areas; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (ASHWANI KUMAR)

- (a) The position of India in the field of Science & Technology vis-a-vis other SAARC countries is given at Annexure-1.
- (b) According to the available official statistics, the country spent Rs. 37,777.90 Crores in 2007-08 on scientific research and development with a share of 0.9% as percentage of GDP. The Government aims to increase it to 2 percent by the end of the XII plan period.
- (c) The national investment on Research and Development (R & D) in the country over the past decade has increased substantially from Rs. 10611.34 Crores in 1997-98 to Rs. 37777.90 Crores in 2007-08. A table showing year-wise national R&D expenditure over the past decade is given at Annexure-2.
- (d) Yes Madam.
- (e) The initiatives proposed by the Government in the XII Plan for promotion of public-private partnership in scientific research include areas such as agriculture and food security, water, energy, environment and affordable healthcare etc. though various strategies like policy changes, creation of joint funds for investments, new mechanisms including formation of new structures for deployment of resources in R&D.