

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:680  
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2012  
FUNCTIONING OF LABORATORIES IN GUJARAT  
Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

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

- (a) the total number of laboratories functioning in Gujarat till date;
- (b) whether the Government has established any laboratory under Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in Gujarat during the last three years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the important works done by the said laboratories in Gujarat during the said period?

**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) There is one constituent laboratory of CSIR under the Ministry of Science and Technology functioning in the state of Gujarat, namely, CSIR-Central Salt and Marine Chemicals Research Institute (CSMCRI) at Bhavnagar. In addition, there is another scientific organization namely, the National Innovation Foundation (NIF) at Ahmedabad functioning under the Department of Science and Technology (DST) of the Ministry of Science and Technology.
- (b) No laboratory under CSIR was established in Gujarat during the last three years;
- (c) Does not arise; and
- (d) CSIR-CSMCRI has significant knowledge base for water desalination and purification. The Thin Film Reverse Osmosis (TFC RO) membrane developed by it along with Hollow Fibre Ultra Filtration membrane, has created a niche for the country. The Technology for Sulphate of Potash has been developed and a commercial plant is being set up. Also, CSIR-CSMCRI has developed many other technologies for salt, biofertilizer, specialty chemicals and biofuels.

NIF has been providing institutional support for scouting, spawning, sustaining and scaling up grassroots innovations. It is mandated to build national register of ideas, innovations and traditional knowledge practices. In recent times, NIF has developed two databases – one on Green Grassroots Innovations and Outstanding Traditional Knowledge and, the second on People's Knowledge. NIF has been able to reach over 545 districts of the country and compile over 1,60,000 examples of contemporary innovations and functional traditional knowledge.