

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1067

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2012

NATIONAL AWARD FOR COMMERCIALIZABLE PATENTS

Antony Shri Anto

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

- (a) whether the Government has instituted any award named 'the National Award for Commercializable Patents';
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to promote inventions of commercially viable technologies in the country?

**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) & (b): Yes, Madam. Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC), a society under the aegis of the Department of Science & Technology (DST), had instituted the 'National Award for Commercializable Patents' in the year 2011 under the Technology Refinement and Marketing Programme (TREMAP) to recognize the innovative potential of Indian Nationals and to encourage the innovator community for making their innovations more practical and relevant to the industrial and societal needs. The award carries a sum of Rs.5.00 lakhs and a certificate. The first batch of this award was conferred to 8 Indian patent holders of the country on 10th February, 2012 by the Hon'ble Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, former President of India.

(c) The Government has taken a number of steps to promote inventions of commercially viable technologies in the country such as:

# protecting IPR, design and copyright through Patent Facilitating Centre / Patent Information Centers;

# extending infrastructural support for leveraging inventions through Technology Business Incubators in the National and Academic institutions;

# funding industry-institutional-collaborative projects for the development of prototype / pilot scale units to study cost benefit ratio before commercialization through programmes like Technology Systems Development, Instrumentation Development, Small Business Innovative Research Initiatives (SBIRI) of DST/DBT;

# funding support for validation, demonstration, popularization of the proven technologies for larger benefit of the people through State Science & Technology Programme of DST;

# providing soft loans for research in pre-clinical toxicology studies, clinical trials of new drugs under Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Research Programme (DPRP), Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative (NMITLI) of DST / DBT / CSIR;

# extending soft loans for promoting inventions of commercially viable technologies by Technology Development Board (TDB);

# conducting biennial national competitions for grass-roots green technologies developed by farmers, mechanics, artisans and validating these innovations and protecting IPR by National Innovation Foundation (NIF), Ahmedabad;

# encouraging invention promotion, leveraging innovations and inventions for competitiveness by the activities of National Research Development Corporation (NRDC);

# Apart from giving national awards for commercializable patents, TIFAC also provides for selected innovations a commercialization incentive of Rs.5.00 lakhs on successful commercialization of the awarded patents. Also selected innovations were provided opportunity to use TIFACs Technology Commercialization Facilitators networks for commercialization / transfer / licensing of their patented technologies.