

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1954

ANSWERED ON:05.12.2012

INTRODUCTION OF INDIGENOUS RESEARCH PROJECTS

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

- (a) whether the Government has received any proposals from the State Governments including Bihar, Gujarat and Rajasthan for the development of Science and Technology (S&T) and encouragement of indigenous research projects;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years and the current year, State-wise and year-wise;
- (c) the details of proposals approved/rejected by the Government during the above said period, State-wise;
- (d) the details of the proposals lying pending and the reasons for their pendency; and
- (e) the time by which the pending proposals are likely to be cleared by the Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) & (b): Although the Ministry of Science & Technology and Ministry of Earth Sciences do not implement any Centrally Sponsored Schemes and do not have any provision for making state-wise allocations for the development of Science and Technology (S&T) and encouragement of indigenous research projects, these Ministries work with State Governments for implementation of some Central Schemes like Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) Award scheme, State Science and Technology Programme (SSTP) and Patent Facilitation Cell (PFC) Programme and request proposals from them. Details on INSPIRE Award, SSTP and PFC programmes for the years 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 (current year) are given below:

(i) Under INSPIRE Award scheme of Department of Science & Technology (DST), two students are selected from every middle & high school of the country having classes 6 to 10 during a Five Year Plan period for an INSPIRE Award of Rs.5000/- each for preparing a Science Project/Model. Merit based selection of students is done by the State Government machinery involving Headmaster/Headmistress/Principal of the schools. Award amount is directly sent to the selected children in the form of an INSPIRE Award Warrant issued by Bank. The awardees participate in the District Level Exhibition and Project Competitions (DLEPCs) and best 5% to 10% entries from the District are selected for participation in the State Level Exhibitions & Project Competitions (SLEPCs). Best 5% entries from the State/UT, subject to a minimum of 5 are selected to participate in the National Level Exhibition and Project Competition (NLEPC). Implementation of the scheme is done by the State/UT Governments. All the 28 states and 7 UTs are participating in the scheme. Entire cost for conduct of competitions at various levels is borne by the Central Government. Money is released to State Nodal Officers in-charge of INSPIRE for organizing competitions at District and State Levels.

(ii) Under State Science and Technology Programme (SSTP) of DST annual core grant support has been provided to State Science & Technology Councils, including the States of Bihar, Gujarat and Rajasthan. Core support is provided to State S&T Councils with the objective of facilitating these councils in planning, monitoring and implementing S&T activities in the States. This core grant assistance partially covers support for Scientific, Technical & Administrative manpower, travel, office expenses and modern office equipment etc.

(iii) Under Patent Facilitation Cell (PFC) programme of DST, 24 Patent Information Centres (PICs) are supported in various states including the States of Gujarat and Rajasthan for creating awareness and extend assistance on protecting Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) including patent, copyright, geographical indication etc. at state level. These PICs are also creating Intellectual Property Cells in Universities (IPCU) of their respective states. As of now 84 IPCU's have been created in different universities of the states. No proposal is received from Bihar State S&T Council for establishing PIC.

Year-wise and State-wise details of the grants provided under the above programmes during the last three years (2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12) and the current year (2012-13 upto Nov.) are given in the Annexure. The programme-wise, year-wise grants provided during this period to the states are as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)					
Name of Programme	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	Total (upto Nov.)
INSPIRE	8283.40	15125.05	15095.07	4335.06	42838.58
Award	(1.27 lakhs)	(2.50 lakhs)	(2.43 lakhs)	(0.65 lakhs)	(6.85 lakhs)

SSTP	935.20	1317.64	1480.14	761.75	4494.73
PFC	45.83	78.00	51.62	42.04	217.49
Total	9264.43	16520.69	16626.83	5138.85	47550.80

Figures in brackets indicate the number of INSPIRE Awards to all states.

In addition, these two Ministries have received a limited number of proposals from the State Governments suo-moto. The State Governments seek through these proposals for establishment of S&T infrastructures such as (a) Science City/Museum/Centre (b) New R&D Institutes and Laboratories (c) Take over of some of the State supported R&D institutions by the Central Government (d) Creation of State Spatial Data Infrastructure etc. as per the details given below:

Nature of the proposals	State	Relevant	Status
Department in Ministry of S&T and ES			

(a) Science City/Museum/Centre	Maharashtra,	Transferred to
Chhattisgarh,	Ministry of	
West Bengal,	Culture	
Gujarat		

(b) New R&D Institutes and Laboratories

1. Regional Centre of Sree Chitra	Wayanad, DST	In process
Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences	Kerala	
& Technology		

2. National Centre for Natural	Ravishankar	DST	Established
Resources Shukla			
University,			
Chhattisgarh			

3. National Agriculture Biotechnology	Mohali, DBT	Established
Institute Punjab		

4. Institute for Nano Science and	Mohali, DST	In Process
Technology Punjab		

5. Tropical Botanical Garden &	Palode, DST	In process
Research Institute Kerala		

6. Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Creativity	Hyderabad, DSIR	In process
Andhra Pradesh		

7 North Eastern Centre for Technology	Shillong, DST	Approved
Application & Reach (NECTAR)	Meghalaya	
with Regional		
Centres in		
other NER		
States		

(c) Take over of some of the State supported R&D institutions by the Central Govt.

1. Institute of Advanced Studies in	Guwahati, DST	Taken over
Science & Technology Assam		

2. Rajiv Gandhi Centre for	Thiruvananth	DBT	Taken over
Biotechnology apuram,			
Kerala			

3. Centre for Earth Science Studies	Thiruvananth	MoES	In Process
(CESS) apuram,			
Kerala			

(d) Creation of State Spatial Data	Karnataka,	DST	Under
Infrastructure etc. Kerala,	Geographical		
Gujarat, Information			
North Eastern System - All			
Region states will be			
already covered in			

(c) and (d): Under INSPIRE Awards scheme proposals from some of the state governments are pending for 2012-13 for Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Mizoram, Tamilnadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Puducherry as they have been received recently. The proposal for the state of Gujarat is pending due to the present Model Code of Conduct of Assembly Elections. Similarly, in SSTP, some of the State S&T Councils proposals are pending for the release of core grant for 2012-13 for Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya & West Bengal as they have been received recently. The proposals for the release of core grant for 2012-13 from Andaman & Nicobar, Bihar and Rajasthan are still awaited. No proposal is pending for PICs annual grant for 2012-13.

(e) The pending proposals are likely to be cleared by December, 2012.