

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3126
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2012
GOVERNMENT SPENDING ON R D
Bhagat Shri Sudarshan

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

- (a) whether the amount spent on Research and Development (R&D) in India is far less in comparison to other countries of the world and the contribution of private sector is also meagre in this field;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefore along with the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the Government expenditure incurred on R&D during the last one decade along with the details of the achievements made in this regard; and
- (d) the details of the steps taken by the Government to encourage R&D during the last three years?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): According to the latest available official statistics, the expenditure on Research and Development (R&D) as percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in India is 0.88%. Public expenditure on R&D as percentage of GDP in most countries is in the range of 0.7 – 1.0% which is similar to the public investment in India (0.65%). However, the private investment on R&D as percentage of GDP in India is 0.23% which has not kept pace with many other countries.

(c) & (d): Details of Government expenditure incurred on R&D during the last decade are annexed. The Research and Development Support in Indian S&T system has enhanced the Indian capability and global visibility in research and has driven level of funding support system per scientist to critical levels. According to the bibliometric study conducted by Thomson Reuters in 2012, India's global share in the field of scientific research has gone up from 2.2% in the year 2000 to 3.5% in the year 2010. R&D support by the government has led to the establishment of Science and Engineering Research Board, Induction and implementation of new Programme called Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) for attracting youth to study science and choose research as career, Promotion of University Research and Scientific Excellence (PURSE), Consolidation of University Research, Innovation and Excellence (CURIE) for women universities, Mounting of Nano mission & Water Technology mission, National programme on Vaccines, Special thrust on innovation by launching National Innovation Fund, Special schemes and fiscal benefits for industrial R&D and Technology Business Incubators etc. The Government has taken a number of steps to encourage research and development in the country and to speed up the pace of development in S&T. These measures include increase in plan allocations for Scientific Departments, setting up of new institutions for science education and research, creation of centres of excellence and facilities in emerging and frontline areas in academic and national institutes, induction of new and attractive fellowships, strengthening infrastructure for Research and Development (R&D), encouraging public-private R&D partnerships etc. Several new programmes in this regard have been launched during the XI plan period. The Planning Commission constituted a Steering Committee for planning the accelerated development of S&T. Further a road map and a concept note for changing the policy environment for increased participation of private sector into R&D is also being planned.