

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2057
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2012
RESEARCH FACILITIES IN BIO-TECHNOLOGY
Mahendrasinh Shri Chauhan

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

- (a) whether there is any need to develop world class research facilities in the field of bio-technology;
- (b) if so, the details of new initiatives taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (c) the details of achievements made during the current year as a result thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (S. JAI PAL REDDY)

(a) Yes Madam. Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology in partnership with other S&T departments and relevant ministries and departments of Government of India in the last two decades has established several world class research facilities in universities and institutions. These facilities include 14 autonomous research institutions and 50 centres of excellence for disciplinary and interdisciplinary research covering the R&D areas of agriculture and healthcare; several high end expansive state-of-art equipments; repositories for biological materials; technology platforms and incubators; and bioinformatics facilities for education, research and services to scientists and private sector.

(b) The new initiatives in life sciences and biotechnology proposed during 12th Plan include: inter-institutional and partnership centres in emerging areas; centralized life science research resource centre for networking all research facilities; state-of-art experimental animal disease model and knockout research facilities; GLP certified regulatory testing laboratories; genomic platforms for molecular breeding of crops; translational research facilities for biologicals; and facilities for new state-of-the-art shared instrumentation in high performance computing, molecular and cellular structural biology technologies, biomedical engineering, non-invasive imaging and spectroscopy, mathematical modelling and computer simulations.

(c) During the current year the achievements include establishment of two state-of-art new generation animal facilities, six academia-industry incubators. Modern post graduate laboratories and central instrumentation facilities in seven universities; partnership centres each for basic biology, chemical biology and synthetic biology; and new generation sequencing facilities.