

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2354
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2013
SETTING UP OF SCIENCE CENTRES
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of science centres and regional science centres in the country along with their functions thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to set up more such centres in various parts of the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the number of proposals received by the Government from the States for setting up of more such centres along with the action taken thereon during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT and location-wise; and
- (d) the total funds allocated/utilised for the purpose ?

Answer

MINISTER OF CULTURE (SMT. CHANDRESH KUMARI KATOCH)

(a): 24 Science Centres have been developed and are run by National Council of Science Museums (NCSM), an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Culture. In addition, 16 Science Centres, developed by NCSM, are run by State/UT authorities. The function of a science centre is to develop scientific attitude and temper and to create, inculcate and sustain a general awareness amongst the people.

(b) to (c): Setting up of Science Centres is an ongoing activity, based on proposals received from State Governments from time to time, in accordance with approved norms/guidelines, subject to availability of resources. Current status of proposals received during last three years and the current year is placed at Annexure-I.

(d): During the last three years and the current year, total fund allocated by the Government of India and respective State Governments to NCSM for setting up of Science Centres is Rs. 4456.00 lakh. During this period, NCSM has utilized Rs. 5762.10 lakh (it includes funds allocated during previous years).