

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4110
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2013
TH INDIAN SCIENCE CONGRESS
Dhruvanarayana Shri R.

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

- (a) whether the Government has organised 100th Indian Science Congress; and
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The 100th Indian Science Congress was held at Kolkata from January 3-7, 2013. It was inaugurated by His Excellency, the President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee and was presided over by Dr. Manmohan Singh, the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, as its General President. The salient features of the Congress were as under:

- (i) The focal theme of the Congress was `Science for Shaping the Future of India`.
- (ii) A new national `Science, Technology & Innovation Policy 2013` was announced during the Congress.
- (iii) Unprecedented level of participation of over 18,000 registered delegates in the Congress, including five Nobel Laureates, one Abel Prize Winner and tens of Fellows of Royal Society, UK and the US Academy of Sciences and several leaders in the national science sector.
- (iv) Large number of Sessions on emerging topics of Science and Technology were organized and these scientific Sessions were very well attended and received.
- (v) A number of special programmes were also organized as part of the Congress which included: (a) Children's Science Congress inaugurated by the former President of India, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam; (b) Women's Science Congress on the theme `Women Empowerment for the Development of the Country; (c) Science Exhibition with special pavilions viz. `the Hall of Pride, Edu Vision and International Pavilion`; and (d) Vigyan Sancharak Sammelan.
- (vi) During the Centenary Year, a total of 26 Local Chapters of the Indian Science Congress Association organized special programmes on the focal theme. In addition, four Regional-Level Science Congresses were also organized.

A number of important recommendations emerged out of the deliberations during the 100th Indian Science Congress. These included the need for (a) special effort to attract and develop human resource for science, technology and innovation; (b) alignment of governance structures in university for rejuvenation of research; (c) strengthening public private partnerships in Research and Development (R&D) and creating a policy environment for increased private sector investment into R&D; (d) enhancing public outreach of science; (e) linking discovery processes in science to the responsibilities of national development like finding appropriate solutions for the country in the areas of food and nutrition, energy and environment, water and sanitation, affordable health care, climate change, etc.