

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4317  
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2014  
SCIENCE CONGRESS  
Rao Shri Nama Nageswara

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

- (a) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to achieve the higher percent of goals set for Research and Development (R and D) as promised by the Prime Minister at the 99th Indian Science Congress;
- (b) the percentage of GDP spent in the first two years of the 12th Five Year Plan, year-wise; and
- (c) the plans of the Ministry to attract investment in R and D from industry and other sectors?

**Answer**

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

(a) The Twelfth Plan of the Government has proposed several steps to achieve higher goals for Research and Development (R and D). These measures include successive increase in plan allocations for Scientific Departments, 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 R&D, encouraging public-private R&D partnerships etc. Funding pattern of Fund for improvement of S&T infrastructures in universities and higher educational institutions (FIST) has been modified to provide enhanced support to more departments and colleges. Funding level in incentive grants like 'Promotion of University Research and Scientific Excellence' (PURSE) has been stepped up to achieve higher goals. A new autonomous funding body, Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) has been created for promoting basic research. Scope of international collaboration has been enlarged by signing bilateral S&T cooperation agreements with more than 80 countries in force with active cooperation with 42 countries.

(b) As per the available data the percentage of R and D spent on GDP is 0.88% during the XI Plan. The expenditure in 2012-13 and budget estimates (BE) for 2013-14 of the 12th Plan for the six Science and Technology Departments / Agencies are Rs. 11424.30 crore and Rs. 16909.86 crore respectively.

(c) Recognizing the importance of innovation in the changing contours of science and technology enterprise and to develop framework for attracting industry investment in R and D, the Government has enunciated Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP) 2013. Some of the plans of the Ministry to attract investment from industry and other sectors include: establishment of large R and D facilities in public private partnership mode with provisions for benefits sharing; treating R and D in the private sector at par with public institutions for availing public funds; launching newer mechanisms for nurturing Technology Business Incubators (TBIs) and science led entrepreneurship; permitting multi stakeholders participation in the Indian R and D system etc. Setting up of Innovation Complexes for undertaking translational research and creating innovative products, technologies and new applications and schemes / programmes of the Ministry such as Technopreneur Promotion Programme (TePP); TBIs; Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Research; Small Business Innovative Research Initiative (SBIRI); Biotechnology Industrial Partnership Programme (BIPP); Biotech Ignition Grant Scheme (BIG); New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative (NMITLI); Open Source Drug Discovery (OSDD) projects have been structured for a propitious environment for industry to get engaged with R and D in the country in a bigger way.