

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3637
ANSWERED ON:13.02.2014
TRAINING IN BIOTECHNOLOGY
Sardinha Shri Francisco

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

- (a) the details of the facilities available for providing training to the manpower in biotechnology sector; and
- (b) the other measures being taken by the Government to increase the availability of high quality manpower in the said sector?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : The Department of Biotechnology has initiated an integrated programme of Human Resource Development in Biotechnology comprising of Post Graduate teaching programmes in 70 universities, short term training courses for upgradation of skills of mid-career scientists, in service faculty, training in leading overseas laboratories and training of biotechnology students in industry in the country. To ensure quality of students, selection is made through all India common entrance test conducted by Jawaharlal Nehru University and emphasis is given to practical training by providing funds for equipment and costly consumables. The department develops model course curricula which are updated every 3 to 5 years. The department is also providing fellowships for doctoral and post doctoral research in country. Students are selected on the basis of online exam for Ph.D fellowships and presentation before the committee for post doctoral fellowship. Entrepreneurship development programmes are conducted regularly to encourage students to set up their own enterprises. Strong feedback mechanism by students and mentoring and monitoring mechanism has ensured availability of high quality manpower in biotechnology to cater to the needs of teaching, research and industry in the country.