

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4288  
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2009  
PROMOTION OF BIO TECHNOLOGY  
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**Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number of establishments functioning in the country that are engaged in research and development work in the field of bio-technology;
- (b) the State-wise outcome of research done in this regard;
- (c) whether any Task Force/Advisory Committee has been constituted by the Government in the Department; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria adopted for selection of members to such Committee?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

- (a) There are 668 institutions/universities including 374 private sector companies engaged in research and development work in the field of Bio-technology as per the details available in the Directory of Biotechnology Industries and Institutions of India published in June 2007.
- (b) The outcome of research is measured on the basis of number of publications of original scientific research articles in journals listed in the International Scientific Citation Index and the number of citations made of such publications by other authors per published paper ('h' index). The details of outcome of the research done is available on the website of the Department of Biotechnology, Block-2, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi i.e. [www. dbtindia.nic.in](http://www.dbtindia.nic.in).
- (c) & (d) Yes Sir. There are 23 subjects specific Task Forces in various cutting edge areas of biotechnology research. The subject areas dealt by these Task Forces include: Agriculture Biotechnology; Animal Biotechnology; Aquaculture and Marine Biotechnology; Basic Research Modern Biology; Biodiversity Conservation and Environment; Bioengineering; Biofertilizers; Bioinformatics; Biopesticides and Crop Management; Biotech Product and Process Development; Biotechnology Programmes for SC/ST & Rural population; Biotechnology Programme for Women; Food and Nutrition Security; Human Genetics and Genome Analysis; Human Resource Development; Infectious Disease Biology; Infrastructure & Centres of Excellence; Inter-disciplinary Research Committee in Biotechnology; Medicinal and Aromatic Plants; Medical Biotechnology; Immunology diagnostics and vaccines; Plant Biotechnology; Seri Biotechnology and Stem Cell Biology. The Task Forces are constituted with the approval of competent authority for a period of 3-5 years. The Task Forces deal with technical appraisal of R&D proposals and give recommendations for their funding. The criteria for membership of these committees include track record of publications in highly cited international journals; 'h' index; impact factor of publications; track records of years of experiences in the field of expertise, technologies developed or transferred to industry and the number of patents filed/granted.