

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2328
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2015
INNOVATION AT SCHOOL LEVEL
Chavan Shri Harishchandra Deoram

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

- (a) whether the Government has created any structure/organization to nurture innovations at the school level and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the National Innovation Foundation has recorded a number of innovations at the rural school level, touching the future of these students;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the National Research Development Corporation is acting as a window for such innovations including the processes patented by laboratories under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR); and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) Yes Madam. The National Council for Science and Technology Communication of the Department of Science and Technology has taken concerted efforts to set up Regional Incubation Science Hubs for Inventors (RISHI) throughout the country for the purpose of fostering children's dreams and passions for S&T. Talented students are encouraged to pursue potential ideas over a three week internship programme in one of these centres. Recently under RISHI, support was provided to Tezpur University, Assam; Gujarat Science City, Gujarat; G.B. Pant Institute of Himalayan Environment & Development, Almora, Uttarakhand and Pushpa Gujaral Science City, Kapurthala, Punjab. The National Innovation Foundation – India (NIF), an autonomous body of the Department of Science and Technology also organizes an annual national level competition of students' ideas and innovations called IGNITE where school students up to class 12th and school drop-outs up to the age of 17 years can participate.

(b) Yes Madam.

(c) The total number of submissions from school children received during the various IGNITE campaigns organized by National Innovation Foundation are about 71200 from over 350 districts of 36 States & Union Territories of the country. In the last seven years (2008 -14), 142 awards have been given to 202 children. Ideas of another 11 school children have received special mention. IGNITE awardees have been from remote villages of districts like Anantnag (J&K), Dhemaji (Assam), Mon (Nagaland), etc. NIF files patents in the name of children in all applicable cases. It also engages designers, engineers, fabricators to make prototypes of children's ideas. NIF then facilitates diffusion of the same through various sources. Last year, the technology of walker with adjustable legs, an idea of a girl student from Patna was licensed to an entrepreneur.

(d) National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) does not deal with school level innovations. NRDC was originally created in 1953 for transferring technologies generated from all CSIR Laboratories of the Country. Subsequently, CSIR has directly started commercialising / licensing the technologies developed by them. Now, NRDC is licensing only the previously assigned technologies of CSIR.

(e) NRDC has licensed the following technologies of CSIR during last five years.

S.No.	Year of Licensing	Technology	Name of the CSIR Laboratory
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1	2009-10	Soleckshaw- Solar Powered Rickshaw	CSIR - Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI), Durgapur
2	2010-11	Liquid Deodorant Cleaner of Science & Technology	CSIR - North East Institute (NEIST), Jorhat
3	2010-11	An Improved Method of Construction Bored Compaction Piles	CSIR - Central Building Research Institute (CBRI), Roorkee
4	2010-11	Corrosion Prevention	CSIR - Central Electro-chemical

in Reinforced Research Institute (CECRI),
Concrete and Karaikudi
Brick Construction

- 5 2010-11 Clean Bioextraction CSIR-National Institute for
of Banana Fibre Interdisciplinary Science and
from Pseudo Stem Technology (NIIST), Thiruvananthapuram
Arid Empty Bunches
- 6 2011-12 Soleckshaw- Solar CSIR - Central Mechanical Engineering
Powered Rickshaw Research Institute (CMERI), Durgapur
- 7 2012-13 Soleckshaw- Solar CSIR - Central Mechanical Engineering
Powered Rickshaw Research Institute (CMERI), Durgapur