

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3485
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2015
FUNDS FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
Lokhande Shri Sadashiv Kisan

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

- (a) the details of the funds allocated for the scientific research in the various fields during each of the last three years and the current year till date;
- (b) the amount of the funds utilised out of the allocated funds;
- (c) whether some concrete results have come out of the scientific research and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the action being taken by the Government to promote education and scientific research in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY)

(a) & (b): The plan funds allocated and utilized for Research and Development in various fields by the Departments of the Ministry of Science and Technology during the last three years and the current year are annexed.

(c) The available data indicates that the scientific research publication output has been growing at a steady pace. Against the global average of 4% growth, the Indian publications have been growing at around 10-12% in the past few years. In the field of Nano-Science and Technology, India today is placed 3rd in the world in terms of scientific publications. It was placed 6th in 2011 and 4th in 2012. A community of over 2000 researchers in the field of Nano Science & Technology has been built. The initiatives have resulted in 5000 research papers in refereed journals, 186 Patents, 600 PhDs and 22 Post-Doctoral Fellows, 900 M.Tech./M.Sc. Students and training of 3500 other technical manpower. Apart from scientific research output, some very significant contributions have been made out of the indigenous R&D work carried out at laboratories of Ministry of Science and Technology or through projects supported under extra mural research programmes. Most notable among them is launch of Rotavirus Vaccine called ROTAVAC for rotaviral diarrhoea which was successfully developed as the first indigenous vaccine. The vaccine is expected to save the lives of millions of children in India and abroad who suffer from diarrhoea. Similarly several indigenously developed technologies and products through various laboratories under Ministry and Science & Technology have been launched.

(d) A number of initiatives are being taken by the Ministry of Science and Technology to promote education and scientific research. One such initiative is implementation of Promotion of University Research and Scientific Excellence (PURSE) scheme in which 44 performing Universities are being supported for promotion of scientific research. Performance of first set of 14 Universities supported since 2009 has improved significantly. Eleven Universities have crossed the h-index mark of 50 against only 3 Universities at the beginning of the scheme. Some other important schemes for promotion of science education and research are: Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE), R&D support through Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), Young Scientist Support, Fund for Improvement of S&T Infrastructure in Universities and Higher Educational Institutions (FIST).