

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4611  
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2015  
PROMOTION OF R D IN DRUG SECTOR  
Tumane Shri Krupal Balaji

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to promote the research and development in the drug sector; and  
(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**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): Yes, Madam. The Government is promoting research and development in the drug sector and has taken several steps to promote R&D in the drug sector which is detailed below:-

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) is supporting drug research through Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Research Programme (DPRP) which supports industry institutional collaborative R&D projects, creating State-of-the-Art national facilities in research laboratories and academic institutions and soft loan to pharma industry R&D projects and grant-in-aid to industries in clinical trials for neglected diseases. Technology Development Board (TDB), a statutory organisation under Ministry of Science & Technology is also providing financial assistance to companies in the field of pharma/ drugs. The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has supported the establishment of Drug Discovery Research Centre (DDRC) at Translational Health Science & Technology Institute (THSTI), Faridabad, which aims to establish as a multi-disciplinary research centre that will integrate basic and translational research in the field of drug discovery. The Government, through Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) has been giving special attention to further promote and support Drug/ Pharma sector through several tax incentives. Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) has been pursuing R&D activities in the domain of drugs and pharmaceuticals with the focus on affordable healthcare. The disease area covered includes tuberculosis, malaria, leishmania, cancer, diabetes, neurodegenerative disease, bone fracture, reproductive dysfunction and contraceptives. CSIR is also undertaking activities under Open Source Drug Discovery programme to address the problems related to drug discovery for tuberculosis. The Central Government has also set up Central Research Councils for Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani and Homoeopathy systems of medicine which are engaged in research and development of drugs for these systems.