

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:413
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2015
Researchers among Working People
Ering Shri Ninong;Somaiya Dr. Kirit

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

- (a) whether according to a recent study, the country has fewer researchers among working people than countries such as Kenya and Chile;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the shortage of researchers has any impact on the functioning of Science and Technology in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard and to promote research in Science and Technology field?

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. As per the UNESCO latest report, India has 4 researchers per 10,000 working people as compared to 6 in Kenya and 7 in Chile. Although, India has relatively fewer researchers in terms of the size of the working population but it is far ahead in absolute terms having 1,92,819 researchers as compared to 9,305 in Kenya and 5,440 in Chile.

(c) to (e): No Madam. The institutions/laboratories under the Ministry of Science & Technology have never felt shortage of researchers. However, the Government has taken various measures to promote scientific research in the country. These measures include successive increase in plan allocations for Scientific Departments, setting up of new institutions for science education and research, creation of centres of excellence for research and state of the art facilities in emerging and frontline S&T areas in academic and national institutes, establishment of new and attractive fellowships for both national and overseas researchers and scientists, substantial grant to potential scientist through Extramural Research Funding Scheme, start-ups grant for young scientists, attractive pay package to scientists as per 6th Pay Commission, recent substantial revision of fellowships for research students, strengthening infrastructure for Research and Development (R&D) in universities, encouraging public-private R&D partnerships, recognition of R&D units and fiscal incentives and support measures for R&D in industries etc.
