

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2984
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2014
FUNDS FOR R & D
Rathwa Shri Ramsinh Patalyabhai

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

- (a) whether the funds allocated/utilised for research and development in the Science and Technology (S&T) Sector are adequate;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the amount spent on S&T during each of the last three years and the current year and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to augment allocation of funds for the purpose; and
- (d) the other steps taken by the Government to accelerate the research and development in the field of S&T in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; (DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) & (b) The Science and Technology (S&T) sector has been provided a modest funding by the Government and the utilization of allocated funds for Research and Development (R&D) is close to 97.6% of the allocation in the last three years. However, the S&T sector require tremendous investment for building high end infrastructure for R&D, development of human resource both in qualitative and quantitative terms, establishing new institutions, centers of excellence, technology platforms, S&T parks and incubators etc. The amount spent by the Ministry of Science and Technology in each of the last three years (2011-14) and current year (2014-15) are Rs. 5178.16 crore, Rs. 4951.0 crore, Rs. 5099.11 crore and Rs. 1783.34 crore respectively.

(c) Government has taken some significant steps to augment the allocation of funds to R&D. Towards this end, the Government has enunciated a Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP), 2013 to serve as a framework for attracting industrial investment in R&D. Some of the plans of the Ministry to attract investment from industry and other sectors include: establishment of large R&D facilities in public private partnership mode with provisions for benefits sharing; treating R and D in the private sector at par with public institutions for availing public funds; launching newer mechanisms for nurturing Technology Business Incubators (TBIs) and science led entrepreneurship; permitting multi stakeholders participation in the Indian R and system etc.

(d) A number of steps have been taken to accelerate R&D in the field of S&T in the country. These include successive increase of plan allocations for Scientific Departments, setting up of new institutions for science education and research, creation of centres of excellence for research and facilities in emerging and frontline S&T areas in academic and national institutes, establishment of new and attractive fellowships, strengthening research infrastructure in universities etc.