

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3989
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2014
FUNDING OF SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS
Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

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

- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to prioritise correcting the deficiencies in funding of scientific institutions;
- (b) if so, the details of budgetary provisions made for the same and whether private sector initiative would be encouraged for research in Science and Technology;
- (c) if so, the details of institutes in private sector shown interest in this regard; and
- (d) to what extent it will help in the growth of Science and Technology?

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) to (d): Scientific institutions are funded by the Government of India keeping in view their priority research areas, available scientific manpower and projects being implemented in the institutes. This funding pattern is working satisfactorily and there is no proposal to revise the same at this juncture. The Government has been encouraging the private sector for research in science and technology in various schemes, such as Technology Development Assistance Scheme of Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC) and New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiatives (NMITLI) launched by CSIR. NMITLI has evolved several largely networked projects in diverse areas, such as bio-technology, drugs and Pharmaceuticals, information and communication technology involving over 100 industry partners and over 300 R&D groups from different institutions. The TIFAC also has more than 100 projects under implementation in collaboration with both public sector and private sector entities. Under the Nano Mission, financial assistance has been given to private institutions, such as SASTRA University and Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences for development and application of Nano Technology. The involvement of private sector is complementing and supplementing the efforts of the Government institutions in growth of science and technology in the country. However, it is not feasible to quantify the impact of the private sector contribution in research and development.