

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 520
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2019)**

NATIONAL RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

520. DR. C. GOPALAKRISHNAN:

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

- (a) whether the Union Government has decided to revive National Research Development Corporation (NRDC); and**
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with reasons and purpose to revive the NRDC?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES
(Dr Harsh Vardhan)**

- (a) Yes, Madam.**
- (b) The Niti Aayog reviewed NRDC in its meeting dated 20.02.2017 chaired by CEO, Niti Aayog and noted that NRDC may be serving a public purpose by assisting in commercialization of R&D and decided as under:**

“Given that the CPSE is serving a public purpose, it may be allowed to continue operations and not be closed. However it must be able to survive and prosper, preferably without Government financial support or minimal one time assistance subject to proof of re-structuring and improved performance.”

Further, in a meeting held at Niti Aayog on 28.05.2018 under the chairmanship of Member, Niti Aayog, it was suggested as follows:

“There is a dire need of the organization like NRDC in the country for commercialization of indigenously developed technologies. However, keeping in view the weaknesses developed over the year by the organization, there is need to recast function, finance, management and linkages of NRDC. Accordingly, Expert Group to be constituted under the chairmanship of PSA to GOI and submit a report on restructuring of NRDC.”

The Expert Group under the chairmanship of PSA to GOI held its meeting on 19.07.2018 and decided that NRDC fills in the critical gap area between development of technology and development of a commercial market around the said technology and a restructuring strategy on NRDC should be developed.

A restructuring report on NRDC concluded as follows:

“NRDC is entrusted with the critical responsibility of commercializing home grown technologies and the need for its existence is even more pressing today than before.”
