

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2631
ANSWERED ON 11/12/2024**

ASSISTANCE TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

†2631. Smt. Kamlesh Jangde:

Shri Chandra Prakash Joshi:

Will the Minister of **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY** विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken steps to provide assistance to the educational institutions to promote research and innovation in science and technology;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the impact of research and development measures on the increasing performance of students in the educational institutions; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to promote research and innovation in science and technology in educational institutions in Rajasthan and Sakti district in Chhattisgarh?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)**

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी तथा पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
(डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह)

(a) to (b): Yes, The Department of Science & Technology (DST) plays a vital role in strengthening scientific infrastructure across the nation, by establishing scientific facilities in educational Institutions to promote research and innovation through its schemes like Fund for Improvement of S&T Infrastructure in Universities and Higher Educational Institutions (FIST), Promotion of University Research and Scientific Excellence (PURSE) and Consolidation of University Research for Innovation and Excellence (CURIE), Sophisticated Analytical Instrument Facilities (SAIF) and Sophisticated Analytical & Technical Help Institutes (SATHI) scheme. DST also provides assistance to the educational institutions to promote innovation in science and technology under the National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations (NIDHI), for establishment of incubation centres. DST is implementing National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical Systems (NM-ICPS) and established 25 Technology Innovation Hubs (TIHs) in reputed institutes across the country in advanced technologies like Artificial intelligence and machine learning, Internet of Things, Robotics, Cyber Security etc.

Erstwhile Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) {now Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF)} has set up Cryo-Electron Microscopy (Cryo-EM) facilities to strengthen the research and innovation in structural biology and drug discovery etc. at Indian Institute of Technology, Chennai, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay and Indian Institute of

Technology, Kanpur and the fourth facility is under development at Bose Institute, Kolkata.

The Department of Biotechnology's (DBT) through its schemes namely DBT - Boost to University Interdisciplinary Life Science Departments for Education and Research Programme (DBT-BUILDER), DBT - Scientific Infrastructure Access for Harnessing Academia University Research Joint Collaboration (DBT-SAHAJ) and Star College also extended infrastructure support to augment Life Sciences and Biotechnology research activities in academic institutions to promote research and innovation.

The Ministry of Science and Technology also actively supported numerous extra mural individual research and development (R&D) projects across academic and research institutions through its various schemes. These initiatives aim to strengthen the creation of science and technology infrastructure and promotes research & innovation in science.

(c) The Ministry of Science & Technology have created a robust ecosystem that supports the growth and development of students in scientific field. By providing financial support, enhancing infrastructure, and offering opportunities for pursuing quality research, the Ministry of Science & Technology has significantly contributed to the performance of students in scientific domain in the educational institutions. India's scientific workforce has expanded significantly by various funding schemes like Women in Science and Engineering-KIRAN (WISE-KIRAN), Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE), Prime Minister Research Fellowship, and various fellowships schemes from Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Department of Biotechnology (DBT), other scientific departments and erstwhile SERB (now ANRF).

The emergence of quality publications from educational & research institutions are indicators of enhanced performance and improved research-capabilities of the critical mass in academic institutions. DST contributed significantly for country's overall performance in R & D and innovation landscape.

(d) Yes, In the year 2022-2023, DST has announced a special call under PURSE scheme for the few unserved regions including the States of Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh to provide basic research facilities for promoting research and innovation activities in new and emerging areas. Manipal University, Rajasthan and Pandit Ravishankar Shukla University, Chhattisgarh was supported under this call. Also, Amity University, Rajasthan, University of Rajasthan and Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, Chhattisgarh were supported under the PURSE scheme.

Over the past three years through FIST Program, research facilities of various science departments of 8 academic institutions in the State of Rajasthan and 6 academic institutions in the State of Chhattisgarh were strengthened.

Technology Innovation Hub (TIH) under NM-ICPS, were established at Indian Institute of Technology, Jodhpur, Rajasthan and Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani.

Erstwhile SERB (Now ANRF) has sanctioned 274 projects to promote research and innovation in science and technology in educational institutions in Rajasthan. In Sakti district of Chhattisgarh, no project has been sanctioned so far.
