

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2534

ANSWERED ON:09.12.2005

STRENGTHENING OF STRUCTURE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Meghwal Shri Kailash

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

- (a) whether Government aimed at strengthening and development of the structure and development of Science and Technology in prime areas and to Start Applied Missions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any system of encouragement of Scientist's and Technologist's and other expert institutions in the country;
- (d) whether the Government is assisting and co-ordinating with foreign based institutions of above experts and to provide other projects to the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (c): Government has taken several measures for strengthening and development of the structure and development of Science and Technology in the country. Recently the government has instituted the Scientific Advisory Council to the Prime Minister under the Chairmanship of an eminent scientist Prof. C.N.R Rao to put in place systems for the needs of India by 2020 and prepare a future road map for Science & Technology at the policy level and guide the nation towards a direction, which will ensure our preparedness for meeting the challenges of the future. During the 10th Five Year Plan the Government has focused on generating relevant innovative technologies; preserving, protecting and adding value to indigenous resources; adopting an appropriate mix of traditional, conventional and modern technologies; developing and nurturing human resource; strengthening basic research in the areas of frontline science & engineering and; promoting S&T interventions in major socio-economic ministries and states so as to make them real stake holders of S&T. The development of prime areas are executed through S&T mission mode programmes, establishment of new research centres of excellence, international collaborative projects, strengthening of R&D infrastructure in academic institutions and research labs, institution of prestigious fellowships like Swarnajayanti Fellowship for outstanding Young Scientists, Ramanna Fellowship for performing scientists, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Fellowship for Young Scientists, Ramanujan

Fellowships to attract outstanding scientists and engineers from all over the world to take up scientific research in our country, J.C Bose Fellowships to recognize and support active, performing Indian scientists & engineers. These steps ensure encouragement of scientists and technologists and other expert institutions in the country. Some of the major new initiatives in the Mission mode are: National Biotechnology Strategy; Nano Science & Technology Mission; National Mission on Bamboo Applications; Seismology Mission; Drug & Pharmaceuticals R&D; New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative etc.

(d) & (e): The Government has signed inter-governmental agreement for cooperation in the areas of Science & Technology with 66 countries including multilateral organizations. The cooperation activities are implemented through various methods such as exploratory visits, joint workshops, seminars, joint R&D projects, setting up of joint R&D centres and short term training programmes in the areas of mutual interest of the parties.