

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1439  
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2006  
RESEARCH BY INDIA AND UK SCIENTISTS .  
Nayak Smt. Archana

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

- (a) Whether Indian and UK Scientists have teamed up for research in the field of Science and Technology;
- (b) If so, the details thereof including field of research;
- (c) The name of the collaborating universities/research institutions from both the countries.
- (d) Whether the field would cover civilian nuclear cooperation; and
- (e) If so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES( KAPIL SIBAL )

(a) Yes, Sir. The Indian and UK Scientists have teamed up to work together to promote research in the fields of Science and Technology. Towards this, an Indo-UK Science & Innovation Council has been constituted with the Hon'ble Minister for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences and UK Minister for Science & Technology as the Co-Chairman from India and UK respectively.

(b) & (c): The First Meeting of the Science & Innovation Council took place in London on June 26, 2006. An 8-member Indian team led by Hon'ble Minister for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences participated in the deliberations at this meeting. Some of significant outcomes relate to:

1. Promote scientific research in specific topics, to begin with, in Advance Materials and Nano Technologies, Stem Cell Research and Animal Biotechnology, Next Generation Communication Technologies, Initiatives on Weather Science and Climate Change and New Energy including Hydrogen Energy.

2. India's participation in UK-India Education & Research Initiatives

(UKIERI) to promote cooperation in education and research. While UK side has committed Pound Sterling 6.5 - 8 Million over the next five years period for S&T cooperation. Indian side will support matching activities. Details will be worked out by the Indian side.

3. A 6-member committee, comprising of 3-members from each side, has been constituted to prepare a work plan comprising of specific topics in the identified areas, mechanisms/modalities of implementation, institutions and the financial details. The Committee is expected to submit its Report by October, 2006.

(d) & (e): Though no specific discussions took place, the UK side has proposed cooperation in the field of civil nuclear cooperation with India. The kind and nature of cooperation will be decided through mutual consultations.