

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2501  
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2006  
INCENTIVES FOR BIO TECH  
Prabhu Shri Suresh Prabhakar

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

- (a) whether the Union Government have a proposal to bring new bio-technology policy ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) whether the Government is also going to announce some incentives for young scientist; and
- (d) if so, the details in this regard ?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b) A Draft National Biotech Development Strategy has been prepared by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India in consultation with various stake holders, concerned ministries and departments, NGO's and policy makers. The basic goal of the Biotechnology Strategy is to facilitate emergence of an ecosystem that promotes and sustains innovation.

The Draft Strategy is a comprehensive road map for addressing cross-cutting issues related to human resource development, infrastructure strengthening, promotion of industry and trade, setting up of biotech parks, regulatory mechanism and public awareness, and an action plan for specific sub-sectors. The strategic action plan will direct the future priorities and activities in different sectors of biotechnology. After extensive discussion on the draft document, a Note for approval of the Cabinet has been circulated.

(c)&(d) Under the proposed strategy, the policy goal is to ensure a steady flow of young scientists and technologists in life science sector. Special incentives such as increased number of Ph.D and Post-doctoral fellowships, overseas fellowships in niche areas, a special rapid travel grant scheme for young scientists and priority R&D support to facilitate young scientists to receive grant-in-aid for research projects have been envisaged. In addition an Innovative Young Biotechnologist Award has been instituted to nurture outstanding young scientists with innovative ideas and help them to pursue their research efforts.