

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3056
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2016
Global Innovation Rankings
Rao Shri Konakalla Narayana

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that recently the Information Technology & Innovation Foundation (ITIF) has released its Report "Contributors and Detractors: "Ranking countries" Impact on Global Innovation" on innovation rankings and stated that India stood at bottom in doing the most for global innovation and India's policies have done the most to harm global innovation;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of measures taken by the Government to improve the global innovation rankings;
- (d) whether it is also true that low budgetary allocation for primary and middle education sectors is the main reason for India's backwardness in global innovation rankings; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(SHRI.Y. S. CHOWDARY)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. As per the Information Technology & Innovation Foundation (ITIF) report released in January 2016, 56 countries have been assessed based on their existing public policies. These policies have been examined from the perspective of either supporting or harming global innovation and not from the perspective of affecting innovation in their own country. The final score of each country has been tabulated on a per capita basis and assessment is based on 27 factors, out of which 14 factors which include tax rates and credits, expenditure on education, world class universities, R&D investment, research citations, etc attribute towards positive effect and 13 factors which include trade barriers, intellectual property environment, subsidies, restrictions etc attribute towards negative impact on global innovation. The countries have been grouped under various categories and BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India and China) countries have been grouped under Innovation Mercantilist. Based on the score, India is at 54th Position on account of making extensive use of trade barriers and providing weaker environment for intellectual property protection.

(c) Many new initiatives of the Government of India are already underway to build an enabling innovation ecosystem which also addresses some of the country specific challenges and gap areas. The Government of India through the Department of Science and Technology brought out a policy on Science, Technology and Innovation in the year 2013. This was done to bring the country at par with the world in terms of fostering and promoting Science, Technology as well as Innovation. India has declared 2010-20 as the "Decade of Innovation". The Government has taken various measures for promotion and growth of scientific research in the country. These measures include successive increase in plan allocations for Scientific Departments, setting up of new institutions for science education and research, creation of centres of excellence for research and facilities in emerging and frontline S&T areas in national institutes, establishment of new and attractive fellowships for both research students and scientists, recent substantial revision of fellowships for research students, strengthening infrastructure for Research and Development (R&D) in universities, encouraging public-private R&D partnerships, recognition of R&D units, national awards for outstanding R&D for industries, setting up of Technology Business Incubators and Innovation & Entrepreneurship Development Centres.

The recent national initiatives i.e Make in India, Start up India, Skill India, Smart Cities, Digital India, focus on Ease of Doing Business and infrastructure development will further boost the global innovation ranking of India.

(d) & (e): No, Madam. Department of School Education & Literacy (SE&L) under Ministry of Human Resource Development implements Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Programme (SSA) for universalization of elementary education at primary and upper primary level. Rs. 634021.69 lakhs have been allocated for the SSA programme for the year 2015-16. Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) is a multiple component programme designed and implemented by the Ministry of Science and Technology, that aims to attract talents for strengthening the Research and Development base of the country and caters to age groups of 10-32 years through various awards and scholarships. At higher education level, India's performance in research and innovation has been promising and impressive in recent years which is evident from the fact that India's position globally in the scientific Publications as Scopus database has improved from 12th position in 2005 to 6th position in 2013 with a growth rate of 13.4% as against the world average of 4.4% during 2005-2013. In the field of nanoscience and technology, India's global position has moved from 6th in 2011 to 3rd in 2013. Recent report of Springer Nature has indicated that India is ascending towards world class science and our country is at 13th position globally on an index of world class scientific journals. An increase in the number of patents filed by CSIR both nationally and internationally also indicate a positive trend on innovation delivery.
