

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No.1562**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1/1/2018

**AUDIT OF IUSSTF AND IFCPAR**

1562. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has conducted an audit of the Indo-US Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF) and Indo-French Centre for Promotion of Advanced Research (IFCPAR);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for not getting the audit done of these units by C&AG since 1987?

**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) to (c): No, Sir. Indo-US Science & Technology Forum (IUSSTF) and Indo-French Centre for Promotion of Advanced Research (IFCPAR) have been established under the Inter-governmental Agreement in Science & Technology with respective countries. Funding and expenditure of these bi-national Centres are equally shared by the two governments strictly on 50:50 basis. As per Bye-laws of these bilateral Centres, annual audit is conducted by a Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) empanelled Chartered Accountants firm and subsequently scrutinized by the joint Finance Sub-Committee (constituted by the joint Governing Board) before these are placed to the joint Governing Board of the respective Centre. The C&AG has never approached the Government for audit of IUSSTF. However, C&AG in May, 2016 had intended to audit IFCPAR. The Ministry of External Affairs were consulted in the matter who advised to consult the French Government before allowing audit by C&AG. In the Governing Board Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017 in Paris, the proposal was not agreed.

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