

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.3962
TO BE ANSWERED ON 2/4/2018

PROMOTION OF S&T IN THE COUNTRY

3962. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:

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

- (a) the steps being taken by Government to promote Science and Technology (S&T) in the country; and
- (b) the details of funds allocated and utilized in various projects/programmes to promote S&T in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES AND
MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

- (a) Government has taken several steps to promote Science and Technology (S&T) in the country. The S&T ecosystem is supported through targeted schemes focusing on strengthening human and institutional capacity for basic research and expanding R&D base; technology development and deployment; S&T co-operation / partnerships and alliances and societal interventions of S&T. While seeding and capacity building in the cutting-edge research areas to translational research; supporting innovation and startup ecosystem, and instituting new schemes and priritous policy frameworks for public-private partneships, the Ministry has given special attention to align these activities with the national agenda of the Government towards Make in India, Startup India, Digital India, Swachh Bharat, Swasth Bharat, etc. The support system includes the extramural funding schemes and Fellowship schemes of Ministry of Science and Technology such as Fund for improvement of S&T infrastructures in universities and higher educational institutions (FIST), Core Research Grant, Nano Mission, Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE), Start-Up Grant for Young Scientists in the form of Early Career Research Award and National Postdoctoral Fellowship, Research fellowships such as JC Bose and Swarnajayanti, Thematic research support to Clean Energy and Water, Smart grids etc.
- (b) Funding for S&T promotion has been provided primarily in the form of R&D projects, research fellowships, mobility grant etc. to individual scientists and various institutions / agencies across the country. Budgetary allocation for scientific departments has constantly been increased year after year and the Ministry of Science and Technology allocated / utilized Rs. 27,184.35 crores in the last three years (2014-17) in various projects/programmes to promote S&T in the country.
