

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION No. 05
ANSWERED ON 20.07.2023

DISCONTINUATION OF VIGYAN PRASAR

*5. SHRI K.C. VENUGOPAL:

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

- (a) whether Government has decided to shut down the operations of Vigyan Prasar, the autonomous body under Department of Science and Technology, which was set up with the mandate for science popularization, communication and building scientific temper;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of the new initiatives undertaken by Government to promote scientific temper in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT AS REFERRED IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 05 FOR REPLY ON 20TH JULY 2023 REGARDING
“DISCONTINUATION OF VIGYAN PRASAR”**

- (a) As of now, Government has not taken any such decision.
- (b) In view of (a) above, the question does not arise.
- (c) A new cell has been created in National Council for Science and Technology Communication (NCSTC) Division, Department of Science & Technology on 07th October 2022 to carry out the S&T Communication related activities.

Also, CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NISCPR), New Delhi has already taken up a new initiative of dissemination of Indian R&D breakthroughs. This initiative is known as the Science Communication Media Cell. Key objective of this initiative is to disseminate Science Technology Innovations (STI) achievements & breakthroughs across different scientific Ministries, Departments, aligned labs and R&D institutes. Through this initiative, scientific information is being disseminated in simple & easy to understand language and in appealing formats through various mass media (Digital, Social Media, Audio Visual, Print, etc.).
