GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 192
ANSWERED ON – 24/07/2024

Research and Development in Education

192 Dr. Ashok Kumar Mittal:

Will the Minister of ***Education*** be pleased to state:

(a) the specific findings and data indicating India's decline on the global research front, including comparative rankings over the past decade;
(b) the budget allocation and expenditure for research and development over the last five years, and the projected funding requirements for proposed initiatives to boost research quality and output, along with an analysis of their efficiency and effectiveness;
(c) primary factors contributing to this decline, supported by data on research funding, publication output, and citation impact; and
(d) new policy measures being planned to improve country's standing in global research, including specific targets, implementation timelines, and metrics for evaluating success?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (d): Recognising research as a core requisite for quality education, National Education Policy (NEP 2020) exhorts HEIs to focus on research and innovation by setting up start-up incubation centres; technology development centres; centres in frontier areas of research; greater industry-academic linkages; and interdisciplinary research including humanities and social sciences research. Government has also taken numerous efforts to enhance the Research & Development (R&D) expenditure and create adequate opportunities for researchers.

India’s research work has received recognition at world level, during the past decade which is visible through its global position in various scientific parameters. India has witnessed a massive jump in its Global Innovation Index (GII) ranking from 66th position in 2013 to 40th in 2023 among 132 economies of the world. India is at 6th position (in 2022) in number of patent applications from 8th position (in 2012) as per WIPO’s World Intellectual Property Indicators. India also occupies 3rd rank in terms of number of Ph.Ds awarded in Science and Engineering (S&E) as per ‘Research and Development statistics at a glance

2022-23’ published by Department of Science & Technology, Ministry of Science & Technology. The said report also mentions that the Gross Expenditure on Research & Development (GERD) in the country has been consistently increasing over the years and has more than doubled from Rs. 60,196.75 Crore in 2010–11 to Rs. 127,380.96 Crore in 2020–21. India ranked 3rd in 2022 (from 6th in 2012) in terms of total number of Science and Engineering publications as per the National Science Foundation (NSF) database of the United States.

Further, “Anusandhan National Research Foundation Act, 2023” was notified to establish the Anusandhan National Research Foundation. Anusandhan National Research Foundation, an apex body has been envisaged to provide high-level strategic direction for research, innovation and entrepreneurship in the fields of natural sciences including mathematical sciences, engineering and technology, environmental and earth sciences, health and agriculture. It also seeks to promote scientific and technological interfaces of humanities and social sciences. Total estimated cost of Anusandhan National Research Foundation for five years is Rs. 50,000 crores.