

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1404
ANSWERED ON 31/07/2025

INDIA-ITALY SCIENTIFIC COLLABORATION

1404 # SHRI BABURAM NISHAD:

SHRI SUBHASH BARALA:

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

- (a) the objectives and recent significant developments in the field of cooperation in science and technology between India and Italy;
- (b) whether any understanding was reached during bilateral talks with Italy in April 2025 to enhance cooperation in emerging technologies, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the partnership encompasses key areas such as Artificial Intelligence, biotechnology and quantum technology?

ANSWER

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

- (a) The objectives of cooperation in science and technology between India and Italy are primarily to strengthen the collaboration in the field of scientific research through joint actions and programmes aimed at supporting the mobility of scientists and researchers, the realization of joint research projects, as well as the joint use of scientific and technological infrastructures. A Joint Strategic Action Plan has been signed by the respective Prime Ministers of Italy and India in November 2024. As a follow up of the Action Plan, a Business, Science and Tech Forum was held in New Delhi, India on 10-11 April, 2025. In addition, a meeting of the India-Italy Joint Commission on Science and Technology Cooperation was also held during the same period.
- (b) Yes, Sir. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for cooperation in the field of scientific research between India and Italy was concluded in April 2025. Further, an Executive Programme of Cooperation (EPOC) for 2025-27 on Scientific and Research Cooperation was signed on 10th April 2025 during the fourth meeting of the India-Italy Joint Commission on Science and Technology Cooperation. Under the EPOC 2025-2027, both the countries agreed to finance 10 projects for exchange of researchers and 10 joint research projects, in different sectors of critical and emerging areas.
- (c) The MoU for scientific research cooperation between India and Italy encompasses key areas of the critical technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, High Performance Computing and Big Data, Biomedical Robotics, Biodiversity, Gene Therapy and mRNA Technologies, Bio-manufacturing etc. Both India and Italy through the EPOC have agreed to support research projects in several frontier research areas including Information and Communication Technologies and Artificial Intelligence, Biotechnology & Sustainable Agri-food, Quantum technologies etc.
