

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1407**  
(ANSWERED ON 31.07.2025)

**LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF CSIR**

1407. Shri Ajeet Madhavrao Gopchade:

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

- (a) whether Government proposes enactment of a legislation to improve the further efficiency and accountability of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has taken cognizance of a representation submitted to examine legislation by the South Korean Government aimed at promoting science and technology, modernizing the sector and boosting national competitiveness to foster economic growth, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has started any external evaluations to measure the outcomes generated by the research carried out by all CSIR centres, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR THE  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES

(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a) & (b) The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has been receiving suggestions for promoting science and technology, modernizing the sector and boosting national competitiveness to foster economic growth.

The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), one of India's largest research organisations, plays a central role in advancing Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) in India. Leveraging its extensive network of laboratories, CSIR has been providing significant technological interventions in many areas and thus boosting national competitiveness to foster economic growth. CSIR, being in the role of technology provider for the industry, has also operationalized desired mechanisms to boost entrepreneurship, which could lead to enhanced creation and commercialization of radical and disruptive innovations, underpinning the development of new economic sectors.

CSIR has also actively engaged in international collaborations to enhance its research and innovation capabilities, adopting global best practices to strengthen scientific and technological advancements. Some of the global partners of CSIR include the National Research Council of Science & Technology (NST), Republic of Korea (RoK); National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, Belarus; CNRS, France; Medicines for Malaria Venture, Switzerland; National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), USA; Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft (FhG), Germany; etc. Through these collaborations,

CSIR has gained insights into partner countries' expertise in high-tech R&D and innovation ecosystems, integrating best practices in technology commercialization and industry-academia linkages. These engagements not only strengthen CSIR's research output but also enable CSIR to refine its methodologies and accelerate innovation in alignment with global standards and enhance its ability to address national challenges with globally bench-marked solutions.

- (c) CSIR, through regular reviews at the laboratory level as well as centrally, has been assessing the performance of its constituents. Expansion of R&D areas, mid-course corrections, as well as foreclosure of some activities in view of its contemporary and future relevance, are important elements of the appraisals. "Outcome Review of CSIR Schemes" in 2016 was carried out by the Saraswat Committee. CSIR has also considered the recommendations of the Vijay Raghavan Committee for fostering stronger and meaningful linkages with the industry and other stakeholders. In addition, appraisals of CSIR activities are also done by CSIR's Performance Appraisal Board (PAB), CSIR Advisory Board and also by CSIR Society under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

To meet national S&T aspirations, CSIR has taken a judicious approach to strengthen existing provisions to facilitate better performance of the Council and its constituents. Towards this, the merger of laboratories, namely CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources (CSIR-NISCAIR) and National Institute of Science, Technology and Development Studies (CSIR-NISTADS) into one entity named CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR) was effected in 2021. CSIR has also upgraded one of its Unit, namely CSIR-Fourth Paradigm Institute (CSIR-4PI), to the national laboratory status in 2024, in due consideration of the emerging importance of advanced digital technologies such as data science, machine learning and artificial intelligence to address national needs of societal and strategic importance.

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