

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PLANNING

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2699
TO BE ANSWERED ON 16.03.2026

FRAMEWORK FOR GSDP INVESTMENT OPERATIONALISATION

2699 SHRI IRANNA KADADI:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the national-level framework issued by NITI Aayog to guide States in operationalising the proposed 0.5 per cent of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) investment in Science and Technology Councils;
- (b) the uniform outcome benchmarks finalised for assessing innovation-led development across States and sectors;
- (c) the methodology adopted to evaluate the fund absorption capacity of councils and their alignment with localised innovation priorities; and
- (d) the key insights emerging from consolidated inter-State consultations regarding fiscal sustainability, implementation challenges and projected return on investment in the science and technology ecosystem?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS
& PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT
CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF CULTURE

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

- (a) NITI Aayog has not designed any framework to guide States in operationalizing 0.5 per cent of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) investment in Science and Technology Councils.
- (b) The Department of Science and Technology, under its State Science and Technology Programme (SSTP) strengthen the Centre-State S&T cooperation through budgetary support to

S&T Secretariat of State/Union Territory (UT) Science & Technology Councils to catalyse the Science Technology and Innovation (STI) ecosystem at their State/UT level through the systemic interventions. As per the Output Outcome Monitoring Framework (OOMF), the outcome indicators of SSTP during FY 2025-26, include the number of patents filed, technologies demonstrated and research publications.

(c) The activities of the S&T Councils are reviewed by the Department of Science and Technology during the Annual Meetings, wherein the deliverables related to STI activities of the Councils, aligned with state-specific and regional needs are monitored.

(d) NITI Aayog has released a report titled “A Roadmap for Strengthening State S&T Councils” which focuses on identifying key challenges and outlining measures for strengthening the functioning of State Science and Technology (S&T) Councils across the country. The report can be accessed at: <https://niti.gov.in/sites/default/files/2025-07/A-Roadmap-for-Strengthening-State-ST-Council.pdf>
