GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1408
ANSWERED ON 30/07/2026

EXPENDITURE ON R&D

1408 SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA:

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

(a) the total expenditure incurred by Government on Research and Development (R&D) during the last five years, year-wise;

(b) the share of R&D expenditure as a percentage of GDP;

(c) the sector-wise allocation of such expenditure;

(d) the steps taken to increase investment in scientific research;

(e) whether Government has assessed India's performance in global innovation, research and technology indices during the last five years;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) India's ranking in major international innovation indicators; and

(h) the measures taken to improve the country's global competitiveness in science and technology?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): As per latest Research & Development Statistics, 2025-26, brought out by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), the details of sector-wise expenditure on Research and Development (R&D) during last five years is as under:

(Rs. Crore)

Year	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Government Sector	87,813.47	80,992.83	1,06,133.32	1,10,949.77	1,17,861.21
Private Sector	44,753.54	46,388.13	88,677.51	1,02,428.35	1,26,906.60
Gross Expenditure on R&D (GERD)	132,567.01	127,380.96	194,810.83	213,378.12	244,767.81
GERD as a percentage of GDP (%)	0.66	0.64	0.83	0.82	0.84

Note: 1. Govt. Sector include R&D expenditure by Central Government Ministries/Department Institutions + State Government S&T institutions/ State Agricultural Universities + Public Sector/joint sector Industries + Public Higher Education Institutions.

2. Private Sector include R&D expenditure by Private Sector Industries + Scientific and Industrial Research Organizations (SIROs) + Private Higher Education Institutions.

(d) The Government has taken several steps to increase investment in scientific research. These includes:

- Progressive increase in budget allocations for scientific departments and research-oriented programmes.
- Launch of ₹1.0 lakh crore Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Fund to support private-sector-led, high-risk and strategic research. This transformative initiative aims to catalyze private sector participation and investment in high-impact R&D.
- Establishment of the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) with a budgetary provision of Rs. 14,000 crore from Central Government and mobilizing additional funding from non-governmental sources.
- Launch of National Missions such as National Quantum Missions (budget outlay: Rs. 6,003.65 crore), National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (budget outlay Rs. 3,660 crore), India Semiconductor Mission (budget outlay Rs. 76,000 crore), National Supercomputing Mission, etc.
- Promotion of Public–Private Partnerships (PPPs) and creation of Technology Hubs under National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical Systems and National Quantum Mission to foster collaborative technology development.
- Implementation of Technology-led innovation programmes such as: National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations (NIDHI), Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) programmes, Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) and TIDE 2.0 (Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs) to strengthen India's innovation-to-manufacturing pipeline by supporting indigenous technology development, prototyping, scale-up, and industry linkages, thereby reducing dependence on imported technologies.
- Introduction of enabling policy frameworks such as: the Geospatial Policy 2022, Space Policy 2023, and BioE3 (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment) Policy 2024 with the provisions for increased participation from private sector.

These initiatives collectively aim to strengthen India's R&D capabilities, enhance collaboration between academia, industry, and government, and create the conditions for sustained increases in national R&D expenditure over the time and to improve the country's global competitiveness in science and technology.

(e) to (g): Yes. NITI Aayog has assessed India's performance in the Global Innovation Index, released by WIPO. India's Global Innovation Index (GII) ranking improved from 46th in 2021 to 38th in 2025**.** India consistently performs better in innovation outputs than in innovation inputs, indicating high innovation efficiency. This suggests that the country is effective at converting its available resources into tangible innovation outcomes, such as knowledge creation, technological advancements, and creative outputs. India is top performer in both Central and South Asia and lower middle-income group.

(h) The measures as indicated in part(d) above.

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