

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1493
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27/12/2017**

ATTRACTING YOUNGSTERS TO SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH

1493. PROF. SADHU SINGH:

Will the Minister of **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY** *विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री* be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has launched any programme/scheme to attract youngsters towards scientific and technological research;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the funds allocated therefor; and
- (c) the details of bodies/institutions involved in promotion of science and technology among the youths?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES

(SHRI Y.S. CHOWDHARY)

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(श्री वाई. एस. चौधरी)

- (a) Yes, Madam.
- (b) Government has launched several programmes / schemes aimed to attract and identify promising youngsters with innovative ideas and provide them with training and opportunities towards scientific and technological research. Some of the notable programmes/ schemes of the Ministry targeted at youngsters include: Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE), Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana (KVPY), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) Fellowship Schemes, Research Associateship, Postdoctoral Fellowships, Early Career Research Awards etc. The Children Science Congress held annually provides a unique opportunity to school children to stimulate scientific temperament and learning the scientific methodology for observation, collection of data, analysis and arriving at conclusions and presenting the findings in various fields of science and engineering. The INSPIRE Award MANAK (Million Minds Augmenting National Aspiration and Knowledge) Scheme has been designed to target ten lakh ideas annually from more than five lakh middle and high schools across the country. Top 60 projects are selected annually for National Awards through district level, state level and national level exhibition & project competitions. Allocation of Rs. 586.0 crore for INSPIRE Scheme, Rs. 325 crore for National S&T Human Resource activities of CSIR and Rs. 7.76 crore for Young Scientists programmes of Department of Biotechnology have been made for Young Scientist Programmes / Schemes in 2017-18. In addition, the Science and Engineering Research Board has allocated Rs. 160 crore so far in the current financial year for its Postdoctoral and Early Career Research Award Schemes.
- (c) In additions to Scientific Departments / Agencies under Central Government, Central Universities, Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISER), National Laboratories, Autonomous Institutions, State Universities, Non-Governmental Organizations etc. are involved in promotion of science and technology among the youths. These organizations actively engage in mentoring, developing and organizing several programmes targeting the youth.
