

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1496
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27/12/2017**

POPULARIZING OF SCIENTIFIC INVENTIONS

1496. **SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has any mechanism to popularize science and technology inventions by our scientists in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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) Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India, has several mechanisms to popularize science and technology inventions by our scientists in the country. National Innovation Foundation (NIF), an Autonomous organization of DST, organizes the Festival of Innovation (FOIN) every year, in collaboration with the President's Secretariat. It is a unique initiative to recognise, respect and reward innovations and foster a supportive ecosystem. Hosted in the month of March in the Rashtrapati Bhavan, FOIN has become a national celebration of creativity and innovation which specially facilitates the access of common people and visitors to Mughal Garden to the exhibition of creative and affordable solutions addressing hitherto unmet or inadequately met social needs. Apart from innovation exhibition, the key activities of FOIN are interaction of innovation scholars in-residence with the Hon'ble President, global roundtable on inclusive innovations (GRII), roundtable on innovations in public service delivery, workshop of innovative and creative children for addressing unmet social needs, exhibition and roundtable on innovations in medical science and biotechnology, roundtable on sustainable inputs and standards for agriculture and organic farming, roundtable startups and innovations in finance and banking sector and so on. To boost innovative innovation spirit of school students, NIF also organizes National Annual Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam IGNITE competition for school students in which, in addition to awards, technological, patent and incubation support is also extended to selected students.

Council of Scientific and Industrial Research under Department of Scientific and Industrial has the Popular Science Division of CSIR-NISCAIR (National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources) which brings out three popular science magazines- *Science Reporter* (English monthly), *Vigyan Pragati* (Hindi monthly) and *Science-ki-Duniya* (Urdu quarterly). These three magazines give coverage to inventions by Indian scientists. It also brings out two Newsletter- *CSIR News* (English) and *CSIR Samachar* (Hindi). The newsletters publish on a regular basis news and information pertaining to inventions and research accomplishments of CSIR scientists. A weekly programme 'Eureka' on the contribution of Indian Scientists is produced by CSIR-NISCAIR in collaboration with Rajya Sabha TV and Vigyan Prasar, an Autonomous Organization of DST, wherein interviews of eminent scientists and researchers are conducted to discuss their S&T inventions and accomplishments. A publication based on the contribution of eminent scientist titled 'Moments of Eureka: Life and work of selected Indian Scientists' was brought out by CSIR-NISCAIR in collaboration with Rajya Sabha TV and Vigyan Prasar in 2016. Constituent laboratories of CSIR also organize interactions of Lab scientists with general public including school students on occasions such as CSIR Foundation Day, Technology Day, Lab Foundation Day, wherein information on S&T inventions by the Lab scientists is disseminated.