

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4182  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21/3/2018**

**R&D ACTIVITIES IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**4182. SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA:**

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

- (a) the allocation of funds made for R&D activities in Science and Technology for the State of Assam during the last three years;
- (b) the details of the researches undertaken during the said period;
- (c) the steps being taken for the promotion of study of science and technology in the State; and
- (d) the success achieved therein?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES AND MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

**(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)**

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री, पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्री और पर्यावरण, वन एवं जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्री

(डा. हर्ष वर्धन)

(a) The Ministry of Science and Technology do not have any provision for making State wise allocations for funds. However, the Ministry is implementing various Research and Development (R&D) schemes/projects with S&T institutions, Universities and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in the Country including in the State of Assam through competitive grant mechanism.

The table below gives the details of funds provided by the Ministry of Science & Technology in the State of Assam to carry out R&D activities during the last three years:

(Rs. in Lakhs)				
Organization	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Ministry of Science & Technology, GOI including DST, DBT and DSIR	451991.29	549505.87	718196.71	1719693.87

(b) The Department of Science and Technology (DST) is supporting projects in R&D through its various programmes & schemes. These include Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE), R&D support through Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), Young Scientist Support, Fund for Improvement of S&T Infrastructure in Universities and other Higher Educational Institutions (FIST), North Eastern Special package-FIST/Promotion of University Research and Scientific Excellence (PURSE), State Science & Technology (SSTP) Programme, and Patent Facilitation Cell (PFC) Programme, Nano Technology, Water Technology Initiative (WTI), Clean Energy Research initiative (CERI), National S&T Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB), National Council for S&T Communication (NCSTC), Mission for Geo Spatial Applications, Infrastructure Development Programme (IDP) etc.

Department of Biotechnology provides 10% of its budgetary support for the NE region. Department of Biotechnology (DBT) implements schemes such as DBT-NER Twinning Programme, DBT's e-Library Consortia (NER-DeLCON), Overseas Fellowship/Associateship for NER Scientists, Biotech Hubs,

Development/Upgradation infrastructure in medical colleges, DBT centre for agriculture biotechnology, Centre of Excellence at College of Fisheries etc. the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research is implementing scheme such as Techno entrepreneur Promotion Programme (TePP), and National Laboratories Scheme of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. All these schemes are open for the stake holder of the State of Assam also.

(c) The following steps were taken by the Ministry through its Constituent Departments to increase the pace of development of Science and Technology in the State of Assam:-

1. Establishment of DBT-NER Centre for “Advanced Animal Diagnostics and Services on Animal Health and Diseases (ADSAHD)” at College of Veterinary Sciences, Assam Agricultural University, Assam and stake holders from all NER States
2. Establishment of a Regional “DBT Animal House Facility for Biotechnology Research in North-Eastern Region”, Dibrugarh, Assam
3. DBT- Assam Agricultural University (AAU) Centre for Agriculture Biotechnology (Centres of Excellence) has been established and fully functional at Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat
4. A DBT-NER Centre for “Advance Animal Disease Diagnostic & Management Consortium (ADMaC)” is being established in NER and BSL-III laboratory at College of Veterinary Sciences, AAU, Guwahati.
5. Establishment of X-ray crystallography facility for the NER at IIT Guwahati
6. Establishment of a Comprehensive Facility for Diagnosis And Management of Genetic Disorders at Assam Medical College, Dibrugarh, Assam
7. Setting up of State Level Biotech Hub at College of Veterinary Sciences, Assam Agricultural University, Guwahati
8. Setting up of Biotech Laboratories at Senior Secondary Schools (BLiSS)
9. Support to more than 250 R&D projects under DBT’s Twinning Programme, DST and DSIR programmes at various S&T institutions in the State of Assam like Assam Agricultural University, Tezpur University, Assam University, Guwahati University, IIT Guwahati, IASST, NEIST, Dibrugarh University in collaboration with IISc, IITs, ICGEB, AIIMS, Delhi University, IARI, JNU, were undertaken.
10. Increasing the umbrella of support of grant under scheme of SERB-Empowerment and Equity Opportunities for Excellence in Science to ensure participation of weaker sections of the Society in R&D.
11. Increasing the grant in aid support to DST- Sophisticated Analytical Instrumentation Facility at Guwahati University.
12. Increasing the support under DST- FIST programme to create Infrastructure of R&D in the universities Science and Engineering Department.
13. Supporting State S&T Council in Assam to carry out S&T.

(d) In the State of Assam, the Ministry through its constituent Department of Science and Technology has supported 30 National Post doctoral fellowship at a total cost of 561 lakhs , 12 opportunities provided to Scientists of weaker sections under scheme of Empowerment and Equity Opportunities for Excellence in Science for R&D at a total cost of Rs.3.61 Crore. 22 Departments of 4 Universities/Institutions supported for creating R&D Infrastructure to the tune of Rs.4409.00 Lakh Sophisticated Analytical Instrumentation Facility at Guwahati university was provided financial support of Rs. 230.98, An additional grant of Rs.50.0 lakhs was provided to Assam State Council for Science and Technology for development of S&T proposal on location specific challenges for the State.

The Department of Biotechnology has established 6 biotech facilities/regional centres, 62 Institutional Level Biotech Hubs, 52 Biotech Laboratories at Senior Secondary Schools (BLiSS), 9 Units of Excellence (U-Excel) in Biotechnology, A Bio Tech Park was also established at Guwahati. 8 Colleges were given Star college status , Bioinformatics facility have been created in 11 Institutions of Assam. 52 Scientists/faculty have been provided Overseas Associate ship from Assam, In addition DBT’s e-Library Facility was extended to Guwahati University, Tezpur University, Assam Agricultural University, IIT Guwahati and nearby Colleges

Ministry has undertaken around 150 R&D projects in DBT’s Twinning Programme for NER at various institutions like Assam Agricultural University, Tezpur University, Assam University, Guwahati University, IIT Guwahati, IASST, NEIST, Dibrugarh University in collaboration with Institutions of national importance.

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