

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2419  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26/12/2018**

**LOW PERCENTAGE OF FUNDING FOR R&D**

**2419. SHRI K. PARASURAMAN:**

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

- (a) whether there has been very low funding allocation (0.7% of GDP) to Science and Research and Development (R&D) in India for the past two decades;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the measures taken by the Government to improve such status quo in the areas of scientific innovation and development?

**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) & (b) : During the past two decades, India's Gross Expenditure on Research & Development (GERD) has been consistently increasing over the years and tripled in a decade from Rs. 24,117.24 crores in 2004-05 to Rs 85,326.10 crores in 2014-15. It is estimated to be Rs 94,516.45 crores in 2015-16 and Rs 1,04,864.03 crores in 2016-17. However, in terms of GDP, the investment in R&D has been fluctuating between 0.69% - 0.84% of GDP during the past two decades.

(c) The Government has been constantly engaged in the promotion and growth of scientific research in the country through various measures such as successive increase in plan allocations for scientific departments, setting up of new institutions for science education and research, creation of Centres of Excellence and Facilities in emerging and frontline areas of S&T in academic and national institutions, supporting Mega Facilities for Basic Research, launching of new fellowships, substantial grant to potential scientists through extramural research funding, scaled up funding in the new areas such as Clean Energy and Water including Energy Efficiency, Clean Coal Technology, Smart Grids, Methanol, Desalination, Genome Engineering Technology, National Supercomputing Mission (NSM), National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical System (ICPS) etc, promotion of innovation, entrepreneurship and start-ups grant for young scientists, Funds for Improvement of S&T Infrastructure (FIST), encouraging public-private partnerships, fiscal incentives and support measures for enhancing the participation of industry in R&D etc.

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