

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.121
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21/6/2019**

PROMOTION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

†121. **SHRIMATI RANJAN BEN DHANANJAY BHATT:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is seriously considering to promote science and technology;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has taken any steps in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE; MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)**

**स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री; विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री; और पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्री
(डा. हर्ष वर्धन)**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c): The Government has taken several steps to promote science and technology. A number of new schemes have been launched to encourage and attract the scientific community especially young scientists. These include; Early Career Research Awards, National Post-doctoral Fellowship Scheme, Overseas Visiting Doctoral Fellowship, Visiting Advanced Joint Research (VAJRA) Faculty Scheme etc. The S&T activities have been realigned by bringing a judicious mix of basic and applied science. The Government is promoting innovations and start-up activities in a big way. In order to enhance and improve crop productivity, district-level Agro-advisory services for farmers have been implemented. A number of water technology initiatives have been initiated to promote R&D activities for providing safe drinking water at affordable cost. Several initiatives aimed at producing clean and green energy have been initiated. Some major successes have been achieved in the area of health, hygiene and sanitation to fulfill the dream of Swasth Bharat. S&T cooperation with a number of countries have been initiated to promote S&T in the country. A high power overarching council called “Prime Minister-Science, Technology and Innovation Advisory Committee (PM-STIAC)” has been set up to advise the Government on policy matters related to science, technology and innovation. Government’s efforts to promote S&T sector has helped India attaining 6th position in the world in terms of total of publications in science citation index journals and 11th position in terms of patent filed. India’s annual growth rate of research publications in Science citation index journals is about 14% as against global average of 4%.
