GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4513 TO BE ANSWERED ON 19/7/2019

NATIONAL SCIENCE POLICY

4513. DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR:
SHRI RAJA AMARESHWARA NAIK:
SHRI KHAGEN MURMU:
SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR:

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated an all inclusive national science policy for promoting scientific research;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the said policy and the present status thereof along with the achievement made since its inception;
- (c) whether an important area of development in universities regarding research particularly in Science and Technology has been left neglected while formulating Science end Technology policies and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is preparing any programme for making the national science policy more inclusive in view of lack of research in basic field of science and importance of patents in this field through modification and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government for investing more funds in the field of scientific research?

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 प्रौदयोगिकी मंत्री; और पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्री

डॉ. हर्ष वर्धन

(a) & (b): Yes Sir, the Government has formulated an all inclusive National Science, Technology and Innovation Policy 2013 (STIP-2013) with a view to promote scientific research through various programmes and activities. The salient features of the policy include making career in science, research and innovation attractive for talented and bright minds; establishing world class Research & Development (R&D) infrastructure; creating an environment for enhanced private sector participation in R&D; and creating a robust national innovation system besides other key aspirations. The Government has taken several steps to implement various components of the policy such as creation of a Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) with an objective to promote basic research in science and engineering; implementation of a scheme called Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) to attract talent towards science education; water and clean energy initiatives; Nano Science and Technology; development of infrastructure in university sector for scientific research; launching of Mission Innovation etc. The Department of Science and Technology has recently launched a new programme "Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical Systems (ICPS)" to foster and promote R&D in the emerging field of research. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has also launched various Mission Mode Projects in

order to put concerted and sustained efforts in identified areas by synergizing the best competencies available in various CSIR labs and outside institutions.

- (c) No Sir, important area of development in universities regarding research particularly in Science and Technology has not been neglected while formulating Science and Technology policies.
- (d) The Government has already created a Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) for promoting research in basic field of science and engineering. Besides SERB, other Departments such as, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) etc. are also promoting research and development in their respective domains. The government has taken various steps to strengthen the Intellectual Property ecosystem in the country, which in turn has had a positive impact on new inventions and technology in Science and Technology sector. A comprehensive National Intellectual Property Right (IPR) policy has been approved in 2016 to stimulate innovation and creativity across sectors. In order to protect, Intellectual property of scientific community of the country the Department of Science and Technology has established a Patent Facilitation Cell (PFC) to facilitate protection of Intellectual Property Rights.
- (e) The Government has been consistently investing more funds in the field of S&T research during last 5 years. The budget allocation for the Department of Science and Technology during last 5 years was Rs.19764 crore, a 90% increase over the preceding 5 years (2009-10 to 2013-14). Similarly, there was an increase of 65% for the Department of Biotechnology and almost 43% increase for the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research during the last 5 years. For the current financial year, the Government has allocated Rs. 13076.34 crore for the Ministry of Science and Technology.
