GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 5366 ANSWERED ON 05.04.2023

DECLINE IN RESEARCH EXPENDITURE

5366 SHRI PINAKI MISRA

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a consistent underutilization of funds in the Industrial Research and Development Sector under the Ministry; if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is taking any steps to prevent further decline in research expenditure;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether there has been a greater decline in research expenditure by public sector corporations in comparison with private corporations; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) No, Sir. Funds allocated to the Department of Scientific & Industrial Research for research and other activities to be carried out by the Department as well as its constitute organisations namely Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) an Autonomous Body, its PSEs namely Central Electronics Limited (CEL) and National Research & Development Corporation (NRDC) are properly utilized in the manner and procedures established by the Government of India under the supervision of Integrated Finance Division (IFD) of the Department. Since, major portion of budget of the Department for the research and development activities is allocated to CSIR, the funds allocated and utilized by it during the last five years, year-wise and during the current year are given below:

Financial Year	B.E.	R.E.	Actual
2017-18	4387.91	4582.12	4582.12
2018-19	4734.71	4521.28	4521.28
2019-20	4831.58	4831.58	4831.58
2020-21	5312.00	4208.40	4101.22
2021-22	5144.27	5233.72	5174.34
2022-23	5562.76	5874.09	5153.86*

(Rs. in Cr.)

* As on 28.02.2023 (tentative)

(b)&(c): Does not arise.

(d)&(e): As per information received from Department of Public Enterprises (DPE), Ministry of Finance, Gol, as on 31.03.2022 the expenditure incurred by Central Public Sector Enterprises on Research & Development for 2021-22 is Rs. 6893.50 Crores and for 2020-21 was Rs. 4891.51 Crores. No specific information with respect to the expenditure by Private corporations is available with this Department or DPE.

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