

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 5507
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.04.2023
SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS**

5507. SHRI K. NAVASKANI:

Will the Minister of Science and Technology विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government subscribes to the view that in order to encourage innovation, the State Governments should emphasize on the creation of more scientific institutions and simplification of processes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the initiatives that are proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी तथा पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
(डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह)

(a) to (c): Yes Sir, the Union Government subscribes to the view that in order to encourage innovation at the state level State Governments should emphasize on the creation of more scientific institutions and simplification of processes.

The Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India (GoI) is implementing several schemes and programmes through its three main wings namely the Department of Science and Technology (DST), the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR)/ Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) to nurture the Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) ecosystem through support towards

- i. Research & Development (R&D)**
- ii. S&T Institutional and Human Capacity Building,**
- iii. Innovation, Technology Development and Deployment for socio-economic development.**

DST is supporting 20 Autonomous Institutions spread across the country in the area of Basic Research, Astrophysics, Geomagnetism, Nanoscience, Himalayan Geology, Science Communication etc. Similarly, DBT is supporting 16 Autonomous Institutes in the area of Food Biotechnology, Animal Biotechnology, Immunology, Biomedical Genomics etc.

In addition to the above, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) is also involved in creating cutting edge R&D knowledgebase & innovation in diverse S&T areas across the country through a dynamic network of 37 national laboratories, 39 outreach centres, 1 Innovation Complex and 3 units. These institutions provide significant technological intervention through R&D in several areas with regard to societal efforts, including environment, health, drinking water, food, housing, energy, farm and non-farm sectors.

DST is implementing a flagship program 'Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE)' to attract, encourage, nurture and train talented and meritorious students at the college and university level to study science subjects and opt for careers in R&D to build a pipeline of quality manpower, thereby widening the R&D manpower base of the country. INSPIRE-MANAK (Million Minds Augmenting National Aspiration and Knowledge) is designed to attract young school students in the age group of 10-15 years to pursue science and career in research through creative and innovative thinking.

Under State Science and Technology Programme (SSTP) through State S&T Councils are strengthening the Science Technology and Innovation (STI) ecosystem through various systemic level interventions. To promote innovative and critical thinking among students enrolled in Professional Engineering/Masters in Sciences courses (B. Tech/ BE/ M Tech /ME/ M.Sc.), DST supports the Student Project Program (SPP) to State S&T Councils under this students are given Rs 10,000/- to pursue their research work. SSP has been supported in Bihar, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu. Approx. 500 students are supported every year in each of the supported states under SSP. DST has established 24 Patent Information Centres (PICs) in State S&T Councils to nurture the innovation ecosystem. These PICs supports innovators to protect their innovations.

Apart from this a dedicated institute National Innovation Foundation (NIF), under DST is involved to strengthen the grassroots technological innovations and outstanding traditional knowledge. NIF has a mission to make India a creative and knowledge based nation by expanding policy and institutional space for the grassroots technological innovators.
