

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2701  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/03/2020

SYST Programme

2701. Shri Parbhubhai Nagarbhai Vasava:

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

- (a) the number of projects meant for providing benefits to the society, sanctioned under Scheme for Young Scientists and Technologists (SYST) programme during the last five years; and
- (b) the number of projects provided assistance under Atal Innovation Mission?

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  
डॉ. हर्ष वर्धन

(a) Sir, Department of Science and Technology (DST), under the Scheme for Young Scientists and Technologists (SYST), nurtures young scientists and technologists to take up Science & Technology (S&T) based projects of societal relevance with lab-to-land approach from across the country. Under this scheme, young researchers can align themselves with academic institutes, Research and Development (R&D) laboratories or S&T driven voluntary organizations for addressing local challenges. These young scientists and technologists then make concerted efforts to address challenges through S&T interventions and adaptive R&D.

A total of 200 projects were supported in last five years and Rs. 25.11 Cr was allocated for the activities proposed under these projects. Some of the noteworthy achievements under the scheme are development of hand held equipment for making bamboo stripes for drudgery reduction of bamboo artisans, eco-friendly bio-formulation developed for poplar farmers, low cost dental brackets for cost effective dental treatment, eco-friendly package developed for tropical hills to cultivate orchids, cost effective wood composite blocks from wood dust and plastic waste, green cutting fluid for the benefit of industry workers etc.

(b) The Government of India has set up the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) at NITI Aayog. The objective of setting up AIM is to create scientific temper and cultivate the spirit of curiosity and innovation among young minds. Towards this endeavour, AIM is establishing Atal Tinkering Labs (ATL) in schools across the country for students between grade 6th to 12th, equipped with latest emerging technologies such as electronics, IoT, 3D printing, Robotics, etc. Till date, 14916 schools have been selected for the establishment of ATLs and 4870 schools have received the ATL grant-in-aid.

AIM is also supporting the establishment of new incubation centres under the Atal Incubation Centres (AICs) scheme that would nurture innovative start-up businesses in their pursuit to become scalable and sustainable enterprises. Along with AICs, AIM is also providing scale-up support to a few distinguished incubation centres of the country. These incubation centres, referred to as Established Incubation Centers (EICs) have already been in existence but AIM intends to further augment their performance by providing them scale-up support. Under this scheme AIM has provided support to 47 AICs and 9 EICs across the country.

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