

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3922
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19.03.2021**

Mission Innovation

**3922. SHRI RAJENDRA DHEDYA GAVIT:
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:
SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU:
SHRI SANJAY SADASHIVRAO MANDLIK:
SHRI SHRIRANG APPA BARNE:**

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

- a) whether India has emerged as a key mover of global S&T partnerships in critical areas like energy, water, health and astronomy which are global challenges to make the world a better and more scientific place to live in and if so, the details thereof;**
- b) whether India played a crucial role in launching 'Mission Innovation' which is a global initiative and if so, the details thereof;**
- c) the details of the funds allocated, released and utilized under Mission Innovation during each of the last three years;**
- d) whether Government has allocated funds to R&D Projects under smart grids engaging various Indian and foreign institutes and industries and if so, the details in this regard; and**
- e) whether the COVID-19 established India's position as a leading country in tackling the pandemic crisis and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE; MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY; AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES**

(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

- (a)** Yes Sir, India has established the partnerships with the key countries and is playing a key role through knowledge generation and innovations in the areas of Biotechnology and allied disciplines including, energy, water, health, which are global challenges. Hence, India has emerged as a key mover of global S&T partnerships in critical areas. Major missions have been launched by Department of Science & Technology, Department of Biotechnology and Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.
- (b)** Yes Sir, Mission Innovation is a global initiative of 24 countries and EU launched during Paris Agreement at COP21 on November 30, 2015. The program focuses on Clean Energy Research,

Development, and Demonstration (RD&D) initiatives to accelerate clean energy innovations.

Department of Biotechnology is the nodal agency for coordinating national efforts in clean energy R, D & D and implementing various activities in close collaboration with Department of Science and Technology and other line ministries. India is playing crucial role in MI Activities at global level by participating in eight Innovation Challenges and co leading three challenges (Smart Grids, Off-Grid access to Electricity and Sustainable Biofuels). India is member of MI Steering Committee and Co-lead of Analysis and Joint Research Sub-Group along with Canada. India has set up Clean Energy International Incubation Center to provide support to start up for providing the most impactful clean energy solutions for the societal good.

(c) Consolidated budget details for last three years for MI India Activities-

Amount in Rs.		
Year	Total Sanctioned	Total Released
FY 2017-18	13,39,16,108	74,98,100
FY 2018-19	68,52,54,134	41,24,49,842
FY 2019-20	44,63,83,106	29,63,76,145
Total	126,55,53,348	71,63,24,087

(d) Yes Sir, Department of Science & Technology is supporting R & D Projects on Smart Grid at various National Institutes, Universities, IITs in collaboration with partnering institutes from Canada, Norway, UK, Germany, USA, Australia, Italy. Government has also committed an amount of Rs. 18 Crore for India-Sweden Collaborative Industrial Research & Development Programme 2020 on Smart Grids. A total of 9 projects have been supported for R&D on Smart Grid.

(e) Yes Sir, the Government of India has taken key steps for tackling the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic has provided a unique opportunity for India to harness the indigenous bio-manufacturing capacities for the global good. Support is being given for development of 15 vaccine candidates for COVID-19 and clinical trials. Two vaccines have already received Emergency Use Authorization (EUA). Through the 'Vaccine Maitree' initiative of the Government of India, the formidable vaccine manufacturing capacity of India is being leveraged for making available COVID-19 vaccines for various partnering nations across the world. Under the Partnerships for Advancing Clinical Trials (PACT) initiative, Department of Biotechnology (DBT) is working closely with the Ministry of External Affairs for advancing vaccine development activities in neighboring countries and conducting training programmes to strengthen clinical trial capacity in neighboring countries. There has also been a major effort towards indigenous diagnostic development.
