

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 235
ANSWERED ON 27/11/2024**

State Science and Technology Programme

235. Shri Murasoli S:

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

- (a) the status of the State Science & Technology Programme of the Union Government and the details thereof;**
- (b) the amount of funds allocated to the State of Tamil Nadu, district-wise under the scheme and the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has any proposals to conduct National Level Programmes in Thanjavur constituency, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) 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) The Department of Science and Technology (DST), under its State Science and Technology Programme (SSTP), nurtures Centre-State Science and Technology (S&T) cooperation through budgetary support to S&T Secretariat of 28 State/Union Territory (UT) Science & Technology Councils including the state of Tamil Nadu for catalysing the Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) ecosystem at State/UT level through systemic interventions under the six components of the STI ecosystem. These components include Research & Development; Institutional & Human Capacity Building; Innovation; Technology deployment for socio-economic development; Science communication and popularization; and State policies. The programme also extends support to Patent Information Centres (PIC) established at the State S&T Councils including at Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology (TNSCST) to facilitate Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) related activities.

(b) Under SSTP, there is no district-specific allocation of funds. The details of funds sanctioned to TNSCST under SSTP during the last 2 years and the current financial year are given in the table below:

S. No.	Financial Year	Funds sanctioned (In INR Lakhs)		
		Assistance to S&T Secretariat of TNSCST	PIC, TNSCST	Total
1.	2022-23	93.99	54.25	148.24
2.	2023-24	92.49	--	92.49
3.	2024-25 (till 21.11.2024)	106.24	--	106.24
Total		292.72	54.25	346.97

(c) to (d): DST has sanctioned Rs. 658.86 Lakhs to SASTRA University, Thanjavur and Rs. 30.17 Lakhs to Government College for Women, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur for strengthening R&D Infrastructure. Additionally, Rs. 86.95 Lakhs were provided to the National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management, Thanjavur (NIFTEM-T), for research and development focused on millets. Furthermore, DST has sanctioned Rs. 20.00 Lakhs to TNSCST for celebrating National Mathematics Day and National Science Day in schools and colleges across the Tamil Nadu including Thanjavur district during the current financial year.

The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has funded 6 projects worth Rs. 896.01 Lakhs in areas such as Biotechnology Information System Network, Environment Biotechnology, Livestock, Animal and Plant Biotechnology and Public Health, Food and Nutrition in the institutes in Thanjavur district. Additionally, DBT has sanctioned Rs. 249.62 Lakhs to two colleges viz. Bon Secours College for Women and A. Veeriyar Vandayar Memorial Sri Pushpam College (Autonomous) in Thanjavur district under its Star College scheme.
