

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1943
ANSWERED ON 11/02/2026**

NON-ENFORCEMENT OF CONTRACTUAL PENALTIES

1943. DR. AMAR SINGH:

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

- (a) the number of instances across scientific institutions where funds remained blocked for more than three years due to non-enforcement of contractual penalties;**
- (b) the number of scientific equipment or prototypes procured during the last ten years that remained unutilised or idle and the cumulative value of such idle assets;**
- (c) the details of meteorological charges and statutory levies not realised due to absence of MoUs/agreements; and**
- (d) whether recovery proceedings have since been initiated and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

- (a) There were no instances across the scientific institutions under the Ministry where funds remained blocked for more than three years due to non-enforcement of contractual penalties.**
- (b) As reported by the scientific institutions under the Ministry, none of the scientific equipment or prototypes procured during the last ten years remained unutilised or idle. Further, the I-STEM (Indian Science, Technology, and Engineering facilities Map) portal, initiated and supported by the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India, facilitates the optimal utilisation of equipment through a centralised, transparent digital ecosystem that connects researchers with publicly funded research infrastructure across India.**
- (c) to (d): Requisite Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) and Agreements are entered into, as applicable, to facilitate the timely realisation of such charges, and no cases necessitating initiation of recovery proceedings have been reported.**
