

and attractive fellowships such as Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE), enhancement in the fellowship emoluments, financial incentives to outstanding scientists, better pay scales to scientists as per the 6th Pay Commission, creation of additional posts in Scientist 'H' grade, programmes to attract scientists of Indian origin from abroad in scientific research in the country etc.

Encouraging R and D activities

4943. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Research and Development (R and D) activities by MNCs have helped in creating world class technology development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a need to encourage large Indian companies to establish R and D centres; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTRY OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) The R and D centres created by MNCs work as per the objectives planned by their respective principles and thus, they create IP/technology needed as per their business focus. These centres employ Indian scientists and technologists who while being in employment get some opportunity to sharpen their R and D capabilities. MNCs either establish wholly owned R and D centres or joint ventures with Indian companies. In-house R and D centres of 84 companies, incorporated by MNCs in India are recognized by DSIR.

(c) and (d) In the current context, IP generation and technology development by the Indian companies is a prime national requirement. Considering the challenges of an integrated global economy and the role of S and T innovations in imparting a competitive edge to our companies, large Indian companies need to spend more on R and D and create centres for excellence in Research and Development. DSIR has in place a scheme which encourages R and D by Indian companies. DSIR has recognized around 1600 in-house R and D centres of Industries out of which, around 25 percent are of the large companies. These companies with approved in-house R and D centres are entitled to avail a number of fiscal incentives for scientific research announced by the Government from time to time and operationalized by DSIR, such as weighted tax deduction @ 200% for in-house R and D and sponsored research programs in approved national laboratories.