

Description	Major Head	Sub-Major Head	Minor Head
<b>Department of Science and Technology</b>			
Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes	3425-Other Scientific Research	60-Others	789-Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes
Scheduled Tribe Sub Plans	3425-Other Scientific Research	60-Others	796-Scheduled Tribe Sub Plans
<b>Department of Biotechnology</b>			
Biotechnology Programmes for SC/ST	3425-Other Scientific Research	60-Others	200-Assistance to Other Scientific Bodies
<b>Department of Scientific &amp; Industrial Research</b>			
Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Scheduled Tribe Sub Plans	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

**Promotion of indigenous talents in science**

†2460. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the area of science and scientific research is declining in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is making any plan for advancement of scientific research by promoting indigenous talented scientists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. There is no decline in the area of science and scientific research in the country. This is evident from the fact that India's position globally in the field of scientific research and development, as measured by the number of research papers published, has

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

improved from 10th position in 2006 to 9th position in 2010 as per the Scopus International database. In areas such as Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, the promotional efforts of the Government has resulted an active community of about 1000 researchers in the country with 18,290 publications. In 2010 India was ranked at 6th in terms of publications in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology. In case of research in chemistry, India ranks 5th in the world with respect to scientific publications.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Science and Technology has several programmes to promote indigenous talent in science for scientific research. The Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) of DST is a planned program to attract talented youth to study science and pursue careers in science. It engages talented youth of the country over the age groups of 10 to 32 starting with excitements of science and attempt to promote a science aware citizenry through an Award scheme, Scholarship scheme, Fellowship scheme and extends to INSPIRE faculty scheme for providing a research career opportunity. Some of the other notable programmes are : Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana (KVPY), National Science Olympiad, Programme, Fast Track Programme for Young Scientists, Better Opportunities for Young Scientists in Chosen Areas of S&T, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Fellowships (SPMF), CSIR Programme on Youth for Leadership in Science (CPYLS), Postdoctoral Fellowships in Biotechnology & Life Sciences *etc.* The setting up of Indian Institutes of Science, Education and Research (IISERs); institution of prestigious fellowships like Swarnajayanti Fellowship for outstanding young scientists, J.C. Bose Fellowships to recognize and support active, performing Indian scientists & engineers are some of the other schemes to help improve the environment for research.

#### **Career prospects of scientists**

2461. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

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

- (a) whether there is a dearth of scientific leadership in the country;
- (b) if not, the reasons for giving unprecedented extension to the secretaries of scientific departments on contract basis;
- (c) whether scientists in these departments have not been promoted during the last five years at various levels and their files are pending with Government;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;