

Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has engaged in high end research and has made significant contributions in many fields including aerospace, health care drugs and pharmaceuticals, food and food processing, energy etc. Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has implemented several integrated research programmes related to applications of biotechnology in agriculture, health care, environment and industrial development. Department of Science and Technology (DST) has supported frontier areas of research in several areas including nanoscience and nanotechnology, structural biology, computational and particle physics, green chemistry, mining and mineral engineering, molecular materials, solar energy, water etc. The infrastructural support programmes of DST such as Fund for Infrastructure Strengthening of S&T (FIST) and Promotion of University Research and Scientific Excellence (PURSE), Consolidation of University Research, Innovation and Excellence (CURIE) for women only universities, special packages for regional balancing of R&D infrastructure (for North East, J&K, Bihar etc) have helped several universities and institutes to augment their research capability and engage in high end research. National share of university sector in scientific publications has increased from 15% to 31% during the last 7 years. The Ministry of Earth Sciences has supported several high potential areas of research in polar science and cryosphere, climate change, ocean technology etc.

Development of critical technologies in space sector such as indigenous cryogenic engine, air breathing propulsion, microwave remote sensing, deep space tracking antenna system etc. and reactor technology have demonstrated the focused directions of Indian research taking place in universities and institutes. The Government has several plans to boost high quality scientific research in future. The priorities set for the Twelfth Plan include stimulation of private sector engagement for investment into R&D; public-private partnerships for promotion of R&D and clean energy; enlarging research in the university sector. Steps are being taken to launch grand challenge mission mode programmes for application in biotechnology, healthcare, agriculture and other areas of national priorities including supercomputing facilities to enlarge the scope of quality research. Budgetary allocation for the S&T sector have increased from Rs. 25,301 crores in Twelfth plan to Rs.75,304 crores in Eleventh Plan and Rs. 1,20,430 crores in Twelfth Plan.

(d) Does not arise.

Science, Technology and Innovation Policy, 2013

1529. SHRI ANIL DESAI:

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN:

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

(a) whether Prime Minister has released the new Science, Technology and Innovation Policy, 2013;

(b) if so, the details and the projected outcome thereof;

(c) whether several senior scientists are sceptical of a high growth in industrial R&D in five years; and

(d) if so, what effective steps Government is taking for this to happen so that there is a big change in mindset and completely new, innovative models to encourage private research investments?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir, the Prime Minister has released a new Science, Technology and Innovation Policy 2013 at the Indian Science Congress held at Kolkata. The Policy *inter alia* aspires 'positioning India among the top five global scientific powers'. The policy goal is the establishment of a strong and viable Science, Research and Innovation system for High Technology led path for India (SRISHTI).

(c) and (d) few scientists seem to have expressed skepticism with respect to high growth in industrial R & D as reported in the media. The Government, while formulating the STI Policy held extensive discussions with industrial sector at the meetings organized by overarching industry chambers. Besides, a Joint Committee set up by the Government has prepared a report on stimulation of investment of private sector into Research and Development (R & D). At this stage, there is reasonable evidence against the skepticism.

New National Water Policy

1530. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to enact a new National Water Policy and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the salient features of the new policy particularly on privatization/commercialization of water supply;

(c) the guidelines regarding the storage, utilization, cleaning and allocation of water;

(d) whether there is any provision for checking polluting sources of water in the new policy and if so, the details thereof; and