

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4130**  
ANSWERED ON 07.04.2022

**SETTING UP OF PREMIER RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS**

4130. SHRI SANJAY SINGH:

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

- (a) the measures taken by Government to promote the culture of scientific research & development;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Government funding continues to be less than 1 per cent of GDP, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any plan to set up Government funded premier research institutions; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) The government has been making consistent efforts to promote the culture of scientific research and development. Some of the key efforts made by Government include the successive increase in plan allocations for Scientific Departments, creation of Centres of Excellence and other facilities in emerging and frontline areas of S&T in academic and national institutions. Several schemes/programme have been implemented for Human and Institutional capacity building and promotion basic and applied research. Some of the key programmes include Fund for Improvement of Science and Technology Infrastructure (FIST); Sophisticated Analytical Instrument Facilities (SAIF); various mission mode programs like Nano Mission, National Supercomputing Mission (NSM), National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical System (ICPS); INSPIRE fellowships, programmes for promoting women in science, INSPIRE Award MANAK (Million Minds Augmenting National Aspiration and Knowledge, Visiting Advanced Joint Research (VAJRA), National Post-Doctoral Fellowship scheme, Prime Minister's research fellowships of DST; CSIR- Research Fellowships and Associateships and Jigyasa programme to connect students and scientists; Department of Bio-Technology-The World Academy of Sciences (DBT-TWAS) International fellowships and providing substantial grant to potential scientists through extramural research funding, encouraging public-private R&D partnerships, recognition of R&D units, fiscal incentives and support measures for enhancing the participation of industry in R&D, etc. The government has also taken specific steps towards ease of doing business, IP management, and procurement policies that will aid in stimulating the private sector's participation in the national R&D ecosystem.

(b) Yes Sir, the national GERD to GDP figure has remained around 0.7% during last few years. However, the Government's funding for research in terms of Gross Expenditure on Research and Development (GERD), in absolute terms, has been consistently increasing over the years and has increased 3 times during the last 10 years.

(c) & (d) No Sir, as on date, there is no plan to set up new premier research institutions as there are already a good number of institutions carrying out both basic and applied research in the country.