

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 607
ANSWERED ON 21.07.2022

INDIA AS TOP GLOBAL SCIENTIFIC POWER

607. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether Government has set any goal to position India among the top five global scientific powers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government to achieve this goal; and
- (c) whether Government is motivating the scientists to take up significant innovations of the global standards and if so, the details thereof along with budget allocated for this purpose?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) Yes Sir, one of the key elements of the Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Policy 2013, is to position India among the top five global scientific powers. The government has taken several initiatives to achieve this goal viz., successive increase in budget 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/programmes have been implemented for Human and Institutional capacity building and promotion of basic and applied science 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), Clean Energy & Water Technology Mission; 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.

(c) The government has been taking various steps towards motivating the scientific community to take up innovation at global standards. The key highlights of the STI Policy-2013 were to promote an S&T - led innovation ecosystem in the country, attract private sector investment into R&D and link STI to socio-economic priorities. The decade from 2010 to 2020 was declared as the 'Decade of Innovation' with the agenda to create an effective National Innovation Ecosystem. The development of the national science, technology and innovation ecosystem has been marked with a significant increase in R&D investment, a rise in publication ranking, and a steady increase in institutional and human capacity. India currently ranks 3rd in terms of total number of publications based on the National Science Foundation (USA) database and 9th (from 14th in 2011) in terms of quality of research publications. The Gross Expenditure on Research & Development (GERD) has increased more than three times in the last 10 years. India has witnessed a massive jump in its Global Innovation Index (GII) ranking from 81st in the year 2015 to 46th in 2021 among 130 economies of the world. The government has allocated a total budget of Rs. 14,219.64 crore under Ministry of Science and Technology (DST, DST & DSIR/CSIR) for implementing various programmes and schemes during the FY 2022-23.
