

India invests 0.65% of GDP on R&D in science and technology

30 November -0001 | News | By BioSpectrum Bureau

India invests 0.65% of GDP on R&D in science and technology



India published 65,487 research articles compared to 3,30,818 by China in 2010. However, during the period 2006-10 the total number of research publications was 2,60,696 for India and 13,02,177 for China, according to a study report from Elsevier, a global publisher of scientific research.

The study commissioned by the Department of Science and Technology on International Comparative Performance of India's Scientific Research provides details of competencies of research publications in 16 major scientific fields in terms of citation impact with India having a higher value of 0.68 as compared to 0.53 of China during 2006-10.

Sharing the highlights of the study, Mr S.Jaipal Reddy, Union Minister of Science & Technology and Earth Sciences said, "The present level of investment in the country for Research and Development (R&D) in science and technology sector is 0.88 percent of GDP of which 0.65 percent is contributed by public sector. This is similar to the public investment in most other countries which is in the range of 0.7-1.0 percent. However, the private investment in R&D as percentage of GDP in India is 0.23 percent which has not kept pace with many developed and emerging countries in the world. There is no lack of dedicated scientific personnel in the country. The present scenario calls for enhanced participation from the private sector to keep up the pace of development in Science & Technology.

The percentage of GDP allocated to scientific research has remained 0.88 percent during the 11th Five Year Plan period. The government aims at increasing the total R&D expenditure as percentage of GDP to 2 percent by the end of 12th plan

period from the current level of 0.88 percent. This is more than double the expenditure over the past years and represents a significant allocation of resources considering the overall resources of the country. The Government proposes to achieve the targeted goal during the XII Plan period through various measures such as policy changes, increase in investment in R&D including by Industry and Strategic sectors, expansion of basic science infrastructure, aligning S&T to development needs like food and health care, evolving new models of public-private partnership in scientific research, encouraging international collaboration etc.