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Govt keen on increased number of innovative research projects

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Considering that innovation is an important component for the economic growth, the government has created National Innovation Council (NInC) in 2010 to rethink and formulate new approaches for inclusive innovation in the country, there were schemes under the ministry of science and technology that encouraged innovative thinking.

Replying to a written question, the minister of science and technology, S.Jaipal Reddy in the parliament on August 05, 2013, talked about various government schemes. He mentioned, "The Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) through its Technopreneur Promotion Programme (TePP) has supported 400 innovations in the country during the 11th Plan and through this support has been able to create 45 spin-offs. The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has Open Source Drug Discovery (OSDD) programme that has resulted in drug discovery for tuberculosis. In addition the New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative (NMITLI) of CSIR is an innovation centric S&T vehicle to take leadership position by Indian industry."

"The ministry learning from these experiences of the last four to five years has initiated two new schemes in the 12th Plan to support any Indian individual innovators with innovative ideas and to convert them into demonstrable models/ prototypes etc. This scheme known as PRISM (Scheme on Promoting Innovations in Individuals, Start-ups and MSMEs) has been launched in the 12th plan in this financial year by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR)," added the minister.Â

During the financial year 2013-14, the other schemes namely i-STED (Innovation, Science and Technology based Entrepreneurship Development) has been initiated by the Department of Science and Technology that aims at identifying challenges and issues in an area and propose its solution based on technological and innovative approaches.