

Facilities for studies in the field of Science and Technology in N.E. region

2882. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the lack of facilities for studies in the field of Science and Technology in Assam and the other States and Territories of the N. E. Region;

(b) if so, whether any special schemes have been proposed to improve the position in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONICS AND ENVIRONMENT (SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) At the initiative of the Department of Science and Technology, the North-Eastern Council and the State of Assam have recently created the North-Eastern Regional Committee on Science and Technology and the Assam Council on Science and Technology respectively. The objectives are: (1) to indicate means of optimum development of hitherto untapped renewable and non-renewable resources of the region, by application of the results of contemporary scientific research and appropriate technology; (2) to formulate appropriate R&D programmes for the academic, research and development institutions of the region and also to evaluate the existing programmes vis-a-vis optimisation of regional resources development activities; (3) to assist the NEC and the States and Union Territories of the N.E. Region in developing suitable science and technology structure in order to ensure and promote application of proper scientific methods and appropriate technology in development endeavours of any scale, especially those pertaining to rural, hill and tribal areas.

2. The Scientific Advisory Committee to the Cabinet has constituted a Task-force on Application of S & T for Remedying Regional Imbalances. This Task-force has recommended that projects/programmes for building S & T infrastructure and S & T Manpower development in under-developed regions of the country may be supported under the Department of Science and Technology's scheme on 'Assistance for Development of State Councils on Science and Technology'. The Task force has approved support to a 'Regional Science Motivation Centre by Regional Research Laboratory, Jorhat' under this Scheme. The Task-force has discussed a proposal from Arunachal Pradesh on the establishment of an Institute of Science and Technology, and constituted a committee to prepare report on it.

3. Projects emanating from the North Eastern Region are being supported/considered under various other schemes of DST. Some of these are: a science motivation course by Meghalaya Science Society; setting up of a Regional Sophisticated Instrumentation Centre at North-Eastern Hill University Shillong an All India Research Project on Ethnobiology covering some areas in the N.E. Region; projects on a scientific study on 'Jhumming', and on ecological adaption and distribution of important tree species at the North-Eastern Hill University; a programme at this University on laser excited resonance, Raman scattering and studies on molecular and condensed systems; a programme on Seismicity and seismotectonics by N. E. Council as a part of an All India Coordinated Project supported under Intensification of Research in High Priority Areas; Solar Driers, Solar Pumps, Community Bio-Gas Plants at various sites in the region. The Regional Research Laboratory (Jorhat) has been extending its activities in the region through creation of branches in the concerned States. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has also established a Poly-Technology Transfer Centre

at Shillong. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has a research complex for the N.E. Region at Shillong. Other S & T agencies are also carrying out their activities in the N.E. Region.

Smokeless Samadhan Chull

2884. SHRI RAM LAKHAN PRASAD GUPTA: Will The PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received the representation dated 6th January, 1981 and 21st August, 1981 from Shri P. B. More Kolhapur (Maharashtra) regarding the invention of smokeless Samadhan Chull;

(b) if so, what are the details of the invention; and

(c) what action Government have taken or propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONICS AND ENVIRONMENT (SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH): (a) to (c). The information regarding the invention claim is being collected and the same will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is available.

Expenditure of Central Scientific Instruments Organisations in T.A./D.A.

2885. SHRI SANGDOPAL LEPCHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of TA/DA claimed separately by the Director, Central Scientific Instruments Organisation, Chandigarh and the Scientist-in-charge, Central Mechanical Workshop of CSIO during the previous four financial years and upto the end of October, 1981;

(b) the total expenditure of the entire Organisation on TA and DA for the said period;

(c) whether Government have conducted any enquiry into the allegations against the Director, CSIO that he had overstayed in Switzerland beyond the sanctioned period and the expenses of his over-stay were borne by "Swiss Contact" yet the Director CSIO claimed and was paid per diem expenses as well as train fare for internal travel in Switzerland, from CSIR; and

(d) what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ELECTRONICS AND ENVIRONMENT (SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH): (a) and (b). Following payments were made in regard to TA/DA by Central Scientific Instruments Organisation (CSIO), Chandigarh in respect of its Director and Scientist-in-charge, Central Mechanical Workshop (CMW) of CSIO:—

Period	TA/DA for Director, CSIO,	TA/DA for Scientist I/c, CMW
1978-79	Rs. 6,380.00	Rs. 1,615.25
1979-80	Rs. 5,077.80	Rs. 4,132.15
1980-81	Rs. 11,319.80	Rs. 3,148.50
1-4-81 to 31-10-81	Rs. 11,181.20	Rs. 2,738.05