

Indo-German Science and Technology Centre

1277. SHRI K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India and Germany have mutually agreed to set-up Indo-German Science and Technology Centre (IGSTC) in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the place where it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Each country has committed to contribute an equivalent amount of two million euro (approximately Rs. 13 crores) per year for initial period of five years. The Indo-German Science and Technology Centre (IGSTC) shall be registered as "Society" under societies Registration Act (Act XXI of 1860, Punjab Amendment Act 1957) as extended to NCR Delhi. It shall be governed by a Governing Body (GB) which will have equal members from India and Germany. The members of GB shall be from Government, academia and industry from both the countries. The IGSTC shall be steered by an Indian Director nominated by Government of India. The objectives of the IGSTC are to play a pro-active role to;

- (i) facilitate participation of industry in joint research and development projects.
 - (ii) provide/assist in mobilizing resources to carry out industrial research and development projects,
 - (iii) facilitate and promote Indo-German bilateral collaborations in basic and applied science, research and technology through substantive interaction among Government, academia and industry,
 - (iv) encourage public-private partnerships (PPP) to foster elements of innovation, application and cultivate a culture of cooperation between science and industry and
 - (v) develop cooperation through the identification of scientists and scientific institutions of the two countries.
- (c) Presently, IGSTC shall operate from a rented building in Gurgaon.

Nano Mission

1278. SHRI K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has launched the Mission on Nano Science and Technology (Nano Mission);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total allocation made therefor; and