

related to space, metallurgy, Information Technology, Biotechnology, Ocean Science, Nanotechnology etc. including issues of basic science. Other issues such as scarcity of water and energy would also be addressed.

Bio-Tech Park in Tamil Nadu

3819. SHRI N. R. GOVINDRAJAR: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to promote Biotechnology in the country particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to set up Biotech Park in Tamil Nadu; and

(d) if so, the detail thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India plans and executes various schemes in Human Resource Development, Infrastructure facilities, Research & Development societal Programmes, Technology Transfer and Commercialization towards promotion of Biotechnology in the country through University Departments, R&D institutions, State Councils etc located in different states of the country including the state of Tamil Nadu.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, the Government of Tamil Nadu has established the TICEL Bio Park to promote Biotechnology Research & Development and Industrial activities at a cost of Rs. 62.50 Crores, at Taramani, Chennai. The TICEL Bio Park had requested funding from the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Govt. of India for the establishment of infrastructure facilities in the park. The department reviewed the proposal and advised them to reformulate the proposal as per the guidelines issued by DBT specifying the exact infrastructure requirements and their proposed utilities for further consideration. The revised proposal is awaited from the park.

Funds for Research and Development

3820. DR. RADHAKANT NAYAK: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Bio-technology has been