

improved from 10th position in 2006 to 9th position in 2010 as per the Scopus International database. In areas such as Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, the promotional efforts of the Government has resulted an active community of about 1000 researchers in the country with 18,290 publications. In 2010 India was ranked at 6th in terms of publications in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology. In case of research in chemistry, India ranks 5th in the world with respect to scientific publications.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Science and Technology has several programmes to promote indigenous talent in science for scientific research. The Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) of DST is a planned program to attract talented youth to study science and pursue careers in science. It engages talented youth of the country over the age groups of 10 to 32 starting with excitements of science and attempt to promote a science aware citizenry through an Award scheme, Scholarship scheme, Fellowship scheme and extends to INSPIRE faculty scheme for providing a research career opportunity. Some of the other notable programmes are : Kishore Vaigyanik Protsahan Yojana (KVPY), National Science Olympiad, Programme, Fast Track Programme for Young Scientists, Better Opportunities for Young Scientists in Chosen Areas of S&T, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Fellowships (SPMF), CSIR Programme on Youth for Leadership in Science (CPYLS), Postdoctoral Fellowships in Biotechnology & Life Sciences *etc.* The setting up of Indian Institutes of Science, Education and Research (IISERs); institution of prestigious fellowships like Swarnajayanti Fellowship for outstanding young scientists, J.C. Bose Fellowships to recognize and support active, performing Indian scientists & engineers are some of the other schemes to help improve the environment for research.

#### **Career prospects of scientists**

2461. SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a dearth of scientific leadership in the country;
- (b) if not, the reasons for giving unprecedented extension to the secretaries of scientific departments on contract basis;
- (c) whether scientists in these departments have not been promoted during the last five years at various levels and their files are pending with Government;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the scientists of mathematical and statistical backgrounds are not being promoted; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) In the recent past, only secretaries of two Departments *viz.*, Department of Science and Technology and Department of Biotechnology have been appointed on contract basis for one year, with a view to complete the preparation of 12th Plan proposals and some of the new initiatives and programmes of the two departments.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. Promotion of eligible scientists is done from time to time under the appropriate promotion Scheme applicable to scientists of various departments. Some cases are under process at various stages.

(e) and (f) No Sir. However, as per the Modified Flexible Complementary Scheme guidelines issued by the Department of Personnel & Training, M.Sc. (Mathematics) and M.Sc. (Statistics) disciplines are not covered.

#### **Database of traditional water resources**

†2462. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal regarding creation of a database of old/natural water resources in the States;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether there is a proposal regarding upgradation of traditional resources of water;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of assistance to be provided to State Governments for restoration of the said water resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to Third Minor Irrigation Census conducted by Ministry of Water Resources with reference year 2000-2001, the number of water bodies

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†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.