Ocean Modelling; Climate and Environmental Modelling; Computational Mechanics; High Performance Computing and Cyber Security; Multiscale Modelling and Simulation; and Solid earth Modelling. The institute has been contributing the desired knowledgebase.

CSIR-4PI houses one of the largest supercomputing facilities of the country. The supercomputer with a peak computing power of 360TF and a sustained computing capability of 334 TF on a High Performance LINPACK (HPL) is currently the 3rd fastest system in the country and 99th fastest in the world (June 2014). The supercomputer was made operational on 6th September 2013, after extensive testing and optimization to maximize the capability of the system.

Retirement age of scientists

575. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a)   whether it is a fact that Government has received any proposal to enhance the retirement age of scientists to 62 years from the present age of 60 years;

(b)   whether it is a fact that the kind of acumen the scientists achieve by the time they reach the age of 60 years are too precious to be wasted; and

(c)   whether it is also a fact that Government is seriously considering to enhance the retirement age to 62 years to put to use the scientists acumen for an extended use for two years, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): (a) to (c) The issue is under consideration of a Committee. The Committee will submit its report shortly.

Skill development centres

576. SHRI RANGASAYEE RAMAKRISHNA: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a)   whether the large scale corporate sector will be encouraged to set up skill development centres which will, in addition to imparting skills in areas germane to their production, also provide guaranteed employment to the entrants; and

(b)   whether such training centres will get recognized as ITIs?