

continue the financial assistance to 88 districts including 82 districts covered under erstwhile IAP through the scheme named 'Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for Left Wing Extremism (LWE) Affected Districts' for the year 2013-14 and 2014-15 with an allocation of ₹ 30 crore per year per district.

(b) and (c) As per Union Budget 2015-16 there is no allocation for the scheme IAP/ACA for LWE Affected districts as it has become part of devolution to the States. The higher level of tax devolution as per the award of the Fourteenth Finance Commission will allow States greater autonomy in financing and designing of schemes as per their needs and requirements.

Establishment of NRDC

850. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

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

(a) the aim and objectives for establishment of National Research Development Corporation (NRDC);

(b) whether the National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) has prepared plan to identify opportunities to align with the Make in India, Digital India and Swachh Bharat Mission and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the NRDC has been facing acute shortage of funds to promote domestic R and D growth; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to provide sufficient support to the NRDC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY) : (a) National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) was established in 1953 as a wholly owned enterprise of Government of India with an aim to act as an effective link between the publicly funded research organizations/academia and industries and add value to their research outcomes for successful transfer and commercialization of technologies. The objectives for establishment of NRDC were:

I. To develop and exploit in the public interest, for profit or otherwise:

- Inventions, whether patentable or otherwise, of Council of Scientific and

Industrial Research, including technical and engineering 'know-how' of processes;

- Patents and inventions of different departments of Government of India and State Governments, commodity research committees and other statutory research organizations, including technical and engineering 'know-how' of processes;
 - Such other patents as may be voluntarily assigned, by general or special agreement, by universities, research institutions, or individuals; and
 - Such other processes and patents, the development of which may be entrusted to the corporation by Government of India,
- II. To enter into reciprocal arrangements with similar organizations in other countries to exploit Indian inventions in those countries and their inventions in India;
 - III. To issue exclusive and/or non-exclusive licenses on such terms and conditions regarding payment of premia, royalties, share of profits and/or any other basis as are considered advisable to commercially develop inventions and ensure commercial production of the products of inventions;
 - IV. To secure cooperation of such state-owned or state controlled industries or any units thereof as are deemed or are likely to be interested or necessary to develop the new processes or inventions and reimburse such industries any loss that they may incur;
 - V. To enter into agreement with a private firm or firms to develop inventions by trials at their works and to reimburse them any loss that may be incurred during these trials;
 - VI. To install and work pilot, prototype or semi-scale units or full commercial plants to develop a particular invention or inventions and ensure production from such invention or inventions, to sell or otherwise dispose of the products of such inventions on payment or otherwise and generally on such terms and conditions as may be deemed fit;
 - VII. To transfer by sale, lease, hire or otherwise dispose of any pilot plant, prototype plant, semi scale plant or full commercial plant to any firm, individual, association or institute and entrust the same with commercial production of any products of invention or inventions for which the plant or plants had been installed on such terms and conditions as may be deemed fit;

- VIII. To afford facilities for advising and assisting Government departments, universities, research institutions and individuals in filing applications for patents and prosecuting the same before the Controller of Patents and to frame rules for the purpose and to vary them from time to time;
- IX. To distribute a share of profits, premia and/or royalties from any particular invention or inventions to Government departments, institutions, organizations, universities, or individuals from whom such invention or inventions were received and to frame rules for the purpose and vary them from time to time;
- X. To reward, in special circumstances, any particular invention or inventions by gifts, rewards, *ex-gratia* payments or in such other manner as may be deemed fit.

(b) NRDC is planning to align its growth strategy with certain key opportunities offered by the Government's flagship programmes, viz. Make in India, Digital India and Swachh Bharat. The 'Make in India' programme includes creation of a technology acquisition and development fund, wherein NRDC proposes to scout for technologies to be acquired, demonstrate high risk technologies in PPP mode and extend angel funding for promising technologies. The 'Digital India' programme includes making available all Databases and Information electronically. Accordingly, NRDC has proposed to develop an Indian Technology Data Bank. Under the 'Swachh Bharat' programme, NRDC proposes adoption of a Gram Panchayat and promote innovative technologies therein for socio-economic transformation.

(c) and (d) Yes, NRDC has been facing acute shortage of funds to promote transfer, commercialization and utilization of domestic R and D. NRDC undertakes commercial as well as promotional activities. Commercial activities primarily include undertaking consultancy projects and licensing of technologies for which it receives royalty/lump-sum premia from licensees and makes payment to the inventors and institutions who assign the technologies to NRDC for commercialization. NRDC's income from its commercial activities during 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 have been ₹ 1073.30 lakh, ₹ 709.86 lakh and ₹ 766.20 lakh, respectively incurring a loss of ₹ 84.54 lakh, ₹ 247.59 lakh and ₹ 170.42 lakh during the same period. Promotional activities primarily include, patent assistance, IPR awareness, technology value addition, techno-commercial support, technology commercialization, giving away innovation awards and promotion of innovations in Rural and North East regions, for which NRDC receives grants from the Government. Government has approved a Twelfth five year plan outlay of ₹ 37 crore for NRDC, against which only ₹ 13.68 crore

has been provided during 2012-2015 and ₹ 1.00 crore in the current F.Y. 2015-16. The Ministry proposes to seek additional support for NRDC at the revised estimates stage and subject to necessary approvals and fund availability position; NRDC will be able to carry out the promotional activities. Simultaneously, NRDC is also being advised to raise its income from the commercial activities to promote domestic R and D growth.

Start up fund for new business

851. SHRI DEREK O BRIEN: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had proposed the setting up of a ₹ 10,000 crore start up fund for new business, if so, the status of the fund; and

(b) the details of amounts allocated and assistance provided to new business through this fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) and (b) In pursuance of the announcement made by the Finance Minister in the Union Budget for 2014-15 for establishment of a ₹ 10,000 crore fund to act as a catalyst for attracting private capital by way of providing equity, quasi equity, soft loan and other risk capital for start-up companies, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has already allocated ₹ 10,000 crores to Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) from Priority Sector Lending (PSL) shortfall, for the purpose.

Skill Training Centre in Rajasthan

†852. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to establish skill training centres in the country to provide employment to the youth in the foreign countries; and

(b) whether such a skill training centre will be established in Rajasthan; if so, by when and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs intend to provide skill training to youth who aspire to work overseas.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.