

computational and particle physics, green chemistry, mining and mineral engineering, molecular materials, solar energy, water etc. Substantial funding has been provided to universities / higher educational institutions to elevate the research infrastructure through the Fund for Improvement of S&T infrastructures in universities and higher educational institutions (FIST) and Promotion of University Research and Scientific Excellence (PURSE) programmes of DST. Development of critical technologies in space sector such as indigenous cryogenic engine, air breathing propulsion, microwave remote sensing, deep space tracking antenna system etc. and reactor technology have demonstrated the focused directions of Indian research taking place in universities and institutes. The Government has several plans to boost high quality scientific research in future. The priorities set for the XII Plan include stimulation of private sector engagement for investment into R&D; public-private partnerships for promotion of R&D and clean energy; and enlarging research in the university sector. Steps have also been taken to launch programmes of national priorities like supercomputing facilities to enlarge the scope of quality research.

Himalayan Sustainability Fund

2812. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE) in the past one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof, funds allocated and utilized in the last fiscal year and in the current fiscal year; and

(c) the details about the Himalayan Sustainability Fund and funds allocated and utilized for the same in the past one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. This department is coordinating National Mission for sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE) under the National Action Plan for Climate Change (NAPCC). The major initiatives that have been taken under NMSHE are for the Himalayan region such as four Thematic Task Forces on Himalayan Agriculture, Traditional Knowledge systems, Forest Resources and Plant Diversity, and Fauna and Wild Life Habitats; anchored around key knowledge institutions in the Himalayan region; networking of related institutions to do focused R&D in different themes of Himalayan ecosystem; Inter-University Consortium on Cryosphere and Climate Change (IUCCCC); an Indo-Swiss capacity building programme in glaciology and related areas; multi-lateral mechanism for Regional Cooperation in the

region. Under the training programmes a number of persons are being trained in the field of glaciology. Also several training and awareness programmes for community based organizations and officials situated in the Indian Himalayan Region have been carried out. State Climate Change Centre in six states of IHR *i.e.* J&K, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, has been supported for state level actions.

In the current fiscal an amount of Rs. 45 Crore has been allocated and Rs. 3.917 Crores have been utilized till 31.07.2015. Also an amount of Rs. 24 Crores (Revised Estimate) was allocated in last fiscal (2014-15) out of which Rs. 23.53 Crores were utilized.

(c) No such fund has yet been created.

Publication of Research Journals

2813. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether assurance was given on publication of Indian Journal of Marine Sciences (IJMS) in answer to Unstarred Question 403 on 26 February, 2015, if so, the details of action taken;

(b) whether publication of IJMS had become international issue;

(c) what action was taken to solve it, the details thereof; and

(d) if still it is not regularly published, what action Government has taken/intends to take to uphold prestige of CSIR and its publications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY): (a) In reference Part (d) of the Unstarred Question No. 403 of the Rajya Sabha on 26 February 2015, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) stated that "The print copy of the journal as per the norms of publication need to be brought out by the Editor, Indian Journal of Marine Sciences (IJMS). Action, as necessary, is being taken at CSIR-NISCAIR". Pending May 2014 issue of IJMS was published on 26 May 2015. For publishing the e-version of the journal, necessary office orders have been issued to the concerned for compliance.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. DG, CSIR in a meeting held on 21 May 2015 directed to bring out the e-version of the journal, from May 2014 issue onwards. Consequently, the May 2014 issue of IJMS was published (26 May 2015); and

(d) Editor, IJMS has been requested to submit the softcopies of the issues of the