

Budapest in March, 2017 created a 4 page article in the Budapest Times magazine focusing on prominent States including Jharkhand. Embassy of India, Tashkent in cooperation with Rotary Club of Bihar and Jharkhand organised a seminar on business environment and tourism potential in Bihar and Jharkhand on March 4, 2017.

Special project in Afghanistan

†2580. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India and China have jointly agreed to identify a special project in Afghanistan in the field of capacity building;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any step, so far, in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [GENERAL (RETD.) V. K. SINGH]: (a) to (c) During the Informal Summit between Prime Minister and the Chinese President in Wuhan (27-28 April) earlier this year, the two leaders discussed the possibility of cooperation between India and China in Afghanistan. Both sides have agreed to undertake joint capacity building programme for Afghan diplomats in India and China later this year.

Centre of Excellence at IIT, Madras

2581. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Machine Tools at Indian Institute of Technology, Madras has been established for development of machine tool technologies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of industries/industrial establishments engaged with this Centre; and
- (d) the details of contribution made by the Centre in domestic capital goods sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. a Centre of Excellence for Machine Tools and Production Technology has been set

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

up at IIT-Madras, Chennai, Tamil Nadu under the scheme for "Enhancement of Competitiveness in the Indian Capital Goods Sector".

(c) Currently, this Centre of Excellence is engaged in developing eleven technology development projects related to the machine tool technology in partnership with six machine tool industries. The details of the projects with the respective industries are as follows:—

Sl.No.	Details of Technology Development	Partner Industry
1.	5-axis CNC Multi-Tasking Machine	Jyoti CNC Automation Ltd., Rajkot
2.	5-axis CNC Universal Machining Centre	
3.	Hydrostatic Systems for Machine Tool	Micromatic Grinding Technologies, Ghaziabad
4.	Automation of Grinding Process Intelligence	
5.	Orbital Motion Abrasive Cutting of Metal	Chennai Metco Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
6.	Direct Drive Automatic Abrasive Cut off Machine	
7.	Multi-Station Robotic Grinder and Polisher	
8.	Ultra-precision Micro Machining Centre	MTAB Engineers Pvt. Ltd., Chennai
9.	Low Cost Machine Tending Robot	
10.	Thermal Compensation strategy for CNC Lathes	Ace Designers Ltd., Bangalore
11.	5 KW drives and 25 KW Spindle drives for Machine tool applications	Interface Design Associate Pvt. Ltd., Thane

Presently, these projects are at different stages of development.

Target for electric vehicles in Government offices

2582. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by Government to promote the manufacturing and use of electric vehicles;

(b) whether any time limit has been fixed or is proposed to be fixed by Government for converting all the vehicles into electric vehicles and if so, the details thereof; and