

The technology developed by CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum (IIP), Dehradun is ready for transfer to any interested party including municipal corporations.

**Knowledge networks under NMSHE and NMSKCC**

1399. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has developed a network of knowledge institutions for studies on the Himalayan ecosystem under the National Mission for Sustaining Himalayan Ecosystem (NMSHE) and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has developed a framework for cooperation with neighbouring countries to obtain knowledge and develop strategy under the NMSHE and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has developed knowledge networks in various areas under the National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change (NMSKCC) and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. HARSH VARDHAN):

(a) Yes Sir. A network of over 70 institutions have been brought under 6 Thematic Task Forces set up under the mission anchored around six lead national institutions for carrying out studies in Himalayan Ecosystem areas. In addition, State Climate Change Cells have been set up in 11 Himalayan States for building human and institutional capacity. An Inter-University Consortium of four Universities on "The Himalayan Cryosphere: Science, and Society" has also been set up.

(b) Yes, Sir, the Government is working closely with the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), a regional intergovernmental Centre at Kathmandu, Nepal for developing regional cooperation for knowledge sharing and learning in Himalayan ecosystem areas.

(c) Yes Sir. Six knowledge networks have been developed under the National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change (NMSKCC). These include; two each on Climate Modeling and Climate Change and Human Health; one each on Climate Change and Coastal Vulnerability and Climate Change and Aerosols. 66 projects have been sanctioned under these network programmes.