

(c) The studies are not complete. The generality of the method to other commonly used plastic (polyethylene) has not been explored. The mechanism of biodegradation is yet to be established. Its industrial applications and commercial viability is to be established.

(d) Once the commercial viability and utility of the technique is established, only then its marketability can be explored.

### **AHEAD**

2220. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Asian Health Environment and Allied Database (AHEAD) registered (No. S/26497 of 1994) with Registrar of Societies, Delhi was associated with Publication of Wealth Asia CDs and received foreign contribution through Council of Scientific and Industrial Research after 1993;

(b) if so, the details including the CD- Rom published, amount, source and date of foreign contribution received from 1994 onwards;

(c) whether copy right of CD-Rom published by AHEAD rest with AHEAD; and

(d) whether competent authority granted permission, after 1993 to Asian Health Environment and Allied Data base to accept foreign contribution through Council of Scientific and Industrial Research?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a),(b) and (d) The Asian Health Environment and Allied Data Base (AHEAD), New Delhi set up in pursuance to an agreement between the CSIR and the IDRC, Canada received foreign contribution from the latter amounting to Rs. 58,12,708 between 1995-1997. The direct receipt of foreign contribution by AHEAD was considered to be a technical violation of the provisions of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976. This contravention has since been condoned by the Government.

The details regarding CD- Rom published under the project are

Disc. D1.1	Environment Asia	November, 1995
Disc. D1.2	Environment & Health Asia	May, 1996
Disc. D1.3	Environment & Health Asia	December, 1996
Disc. D2.1	Wealth of Asia	January, 1996
Disc. D2.2	Wealth of Asia	August, 1996
Disc. D2.3	Wealth of Asia	June, 1997

(c) No, Sir. The copy right of the individual databases in AHEAD CD- ROM disk rested with the participating organization of AHEAD which contributed the data.

### **Foreign investment in Science and Technology Projects**

†2221. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:  
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

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

(a) whether Government have given its consent for foreign investments in the projects falling under Science & Technology sector during recent years;

(b) if so, the number of proposals of foreign investment approved by Government from 1991 to March, 2003;

(c) the number of proposals for which actual foreign investment has been made; and

(d) the amount invested in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) to (d) There is no foreign direct investments (FDI) data maintained separately under the Science & Technology sector. A total of 23,553 financial or technical collaboration approvals involving FDI have been given during 1991 to March 2003 out of which 7293 are technical collaborations in 42 different sectors. The technical collaboration projects essentially cover technology transfers. Actual in-flow of FDI in the form of financial or technical collaboration is Rs. 133529.85 Crores.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.