

day of fuel pellets has been commissioned and streamlined in the City of Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh) with the said technology with techno-managerial support from TIFAC and financial support from the Technology Development Board.

The knowledge about availability of this technology has been widely disseminated by TIFAC and DST. TIFAC's main task is to assess emerging technologies and create a few viable demonstrable models. It is for industries to establish similar plants elsewhere in coordination with the concerned municipalities. The Karnataka Government has not sought Central Government's assistance in establishing commercial-scale plants in that State.

### **Violation of rules by UGC**

\* 553. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-report, captioned "UGC spent Rs. 100 cr. with no records : Gross violation of guidelines set to sanction research project" appearing in the Asian Age dated 4th April, 2002;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the inquiry/action proposed to be initiated against the incidents of irregularities and violation of guidelines highlighted in the report?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As informed by the University Grants Commission (UGC), during past 10 years, UGC has disbursed Rs. 95.64 crores towards Major Research Projects and Rs. 21.72 crores towards Minor Research Projects. No teacher has been awarded more than one project at a time by the UGC. However, a Researcher may have Research Project from more than one agency at a time. 22 Major Research Projects were awarded by the UGC in North-Eastern Region during 1995-98. All these projects have been completed as per the records of UGC. Minor Research Projects are sanctioned by the Regional Offices of UGC. In view of the above, there seems to be no necessity to hold any inquiry in the matter by the Government.