

prepare the curriculum for the "Natural Language Processing Teachers Training Programme" aimed at re-orienting linguists and language educators in the emerging areas of Computational Linguistics and Computer Assisted Learning and Teaching. The training programme will be organised with joint collaboration of technical and language institutions.

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Patenting in India

4106. SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether adequate attention is being paid to patenting and if not, the reasons thereof;

(b) how do Indian patents compare in actual numbers and percentage of world in electronics, bio-technology, non-conventional energy sources;

(c) the percentage of Government sponsored R & D projects resulting into any patent especially in rapidly growing areas of electronics and bio-technology; and

(d) the details of strategy adopted to keep pace with advanced countries in terms of national and international patenting in knowledge intensive and capital intensive technologies patenting in knowledge intensive and capital intensive technologies in the frontier areas like electronics and bio-technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Investigation into Unlawful Location of NOCIL

4107. SHRI UDAYSINGHRAO NANASAHÉB GAIKWAD:
SHRI VIDYADHAR GOKHALE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received communications pointing out a series of violations and irregularities regarding NOCIL's proposed petro-chemical complex in New Bombay;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken any concrete action thereon;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANJUNAS ROURAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The issue raised relate to the expansion/modernisation of the existing petrochemical unit which is not in conformity with the guidelines for siting of industries. The Ministry has initiated action to evaluate the industrial development in this area. For this purpose the State Government has been requested to submit a report on carrying and assimilative capacity of the area.

Award to Meritorious Scientists

4108. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Department of Science and Technology has a scheme to award meritorious scientists to improve work efficiency,