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.

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 NANASAHEB 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 NILAMANi ROUTRAY): (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,

performance quality and implement official language policy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Department of Science and Technology (DST) has such a scheme. The objective of the scheme is to improve the work efficiency, performance, quality and productivity of the various officials, including scientists, working in DST. As per this scheme, an awardee is given a cash award of Rs. 1500/-. This award is normally given to a maximum of three persons once in two months. There is also a scheme in DST to award Cash prizes to various officials, including Scientists, for doing their official work in Hindi as per the guidelines issued by the Department of Official Languages. Hindi week is celebrated each year and Hindi competitions are organised; prizes are given to the winner. (. ᵣ (ₒ ₑ ₗ (ₒ)

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Software Material for Class Project

4109. SHRI NARSINGH RAO DIKSHIT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether CLASS Project was started in 1984 and less than 1000 schools have so far been provided computers without software and instructional material in Hindi and if so, the reasons thereof;

(b) the details of packages (in percentage) in Hindi and other Indian languages vis-a-vis packages in English;

(c) the steps taken for providing Authorising System to prepare lessons in Hindi and other Indian Languages;

(d) the strategy for planned development of educational software;

(e) whether there is any scheme to provide IBM Personnal Computer instead of SCL UNICORN Microcomputer; and

(f) if so, the details of such scheme, and arrangements made for maintenance of two types of computers in schools and compatibility and exchange of software between these computers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) CLASS Project was started in 1984 and 1694 schools (as on 31.3.90) have been provided Microcomputers with software and instructional material in English. It has not been found feasible to switch over to Indian Language due to limited capability of the SCL Microcomputer to handle Indian languages.

(b) At present, 25 software package are being provided to each of the selected schools CMC Ltd., a public sector undertaking under the administrative control of the Department of Electronics has develop 'Read Only Memories ' (ROMs) to cater to script generation of 11 different Indian Languages and also one software package in Hindi called "Prashna Kosh". These ROMs provide capability for transliteration in 11 Indian languages.

(c) The Department of Electronics has drawn up a programme, namely, Technology Development for Indian Languages for implementation during the VIII Plan; this would facilitate preparation of lessons in Hindi and other Indian Languages.

(d) Resource Centre as well as public and private entrepreneurs are being encouraged to undertake development of educational software. This is being coordinated by National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT)

(e) and (f). Government is considering