

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) and (b) India Meteorological Department (IMD) is maintaining countrywide network of 37 observatories. The distribution of these observatories is: Assam,-1 Andaman & Nicobar Island -1, Andhra Pradesh-1, Bihar-2, Delhi-1, Gujarat-1, Goa-1, Himachal Pradesh-1, Punjab-1, Jammu & Kashmir-2, Kerala-1, Karnataka-1, Lakshadweep & Minicoy Islands-1, Maharashtra-6, Madhya Pradesh-2, Meghalaya-2, Manipur-1, Orissa-1, Rajasthan-1, Tripura-1, Tamil Nadu-2, Uttar Pradesh-5, West Bengal-1. In addition, 16 observatories for other agencies are run by IMD under various schemes.

Under the Himalayan Seismicity project 35 seismic units are functional. They are distributed in Himachal Pradesh (9 units); Uttar Pradesh (19 units); Delhi (3 units); Assam (3 units) and Manipur (1 unit). Also 3 arrays of Strong Motion Accelerographs (SMAs) consisting of 163 units have been set up at Kangra, pithoragarh and NE region.

Furthermore, there are observatories maintained by other organisations like National Geophysical Research Institute, river valley project authorities and academic institutions.

(c) and (d). IMD plans to add an observatory at Siiiguri (West Bengal) under the national network and set up a telemetered cluster in Delhi region during the current Plan period. A strong motion array is also being set up in Delhi region. In addition, under the Himalayan Seismicity Project, proposals for setting up of telemetered arrays in Kangra (Himachal Pradesh) and Pithoragarh (U.P.) are being processed. Under the World Bank assisted project for Peninsular Shield seismicity, the following activities are initiated (i) modernisation of 20 existing observatories of IMD, (ii) opening of 10 new digital observatories, (iii) setting up of three multi-element telemetered clusters in Koyna-Warna (Maharashtra), Latur (Maharashtra) and Khandwa (Madhya Pradesh), (iv) addition of 20 mobile seismic instruments and (v) setting up of strong motion instruments for free-field and structural studies.

[Translation]

Biotechnology Based Industries

2572. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have prepared any list of biotechnology based industries;

(b) if so, the number of industrial units for which Government assistance has been provided; and

(c) the number and names of industries approved in private sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) and (b) A list of biotechnology industries has been prepared. There are five joint R & D projects sponsored by Government in which financial assistance is provided to industrial partners. For this appropriate Memorandum of Understandings are signed.

(c) The recorded number of biotech industries in the Private sector is 91; these include industries in plant tissue culture, biofertilizers, diagnostics, vaccines, bio-active molecules, antibiotics, enzymes, vitamins, food and feed formulations.

[English]

National Directory of Doctors

2573. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Medical Council of India propose to publish a national directory of doctors with their fees and service charges so that patients can choose a physician who they can afford;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Medical Council of India has submitted certain recommendations to the Government for acceptance about the doctors informing the patients about their consultation charges in advance and keep a record of the treatment;

(d) if so, the details of recommendations submitted by the Medical council of India to his Ministry; and

(e) the reaction of the government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) to (e) The Committee on Subordinate Legislation have made certain recommendations on this subject. These are under consideration in this Ministry.

Ranikhet Express

2574. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the people of Kumaon region have demanded to increase the frequency of Delhi-Kathgodam-Ranikhet Express;

(b) whether the Government have taken any action on this demand;