

entitled Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (STEDS) in selected backward districts of the country for promoting entrepreneurship based on un-utilised and under utilised resources of these districts. In addition, incentive schemes such as National Science & Technology Entrepreneurs award are also being operated.

Wedding out of Amrit

2863. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned weeding out of "amrit by Samudra Manthan" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated June 18, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the estimated expenditure incurred on the search for amrit in the deep sea; and

(d) the extent to which it is considered commensurate with the results achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS, AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARODO FALEIRO) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department is funding one national project on "Potential Drugs from Sea" by involving 10 national laboratories, Universities and Institutions. This project is in the second phase spanning over the period 1993-1996. Earlier the first phase (1990-1993) of the national project was also funded by the Department.

This envisages exploring marine flora and fauna to obtain bioactive compounds for use as drugs. So far around hundred specimens out of more than 460 marine flora and fauna have been collected from different coastal regions and their extracts are being screened. About ten marine flora and fauna have been identified as potentially bioactive against one or the other disease. Further investigation is in progress.

(c) An amount of Rs. 158.33 lakhs has been released for the Phase I, whereas in Phase II an amount of Rs. 308.64 lakhs was released so far against the approved cost of Rs. 467.13 lakhs.

(d) Some of the following results so far achieved are encouraging. A medical weed (alga) has shown antiviral activity and a new compound showing efficacy against Encephlo myocarditis virus (EMCV) in animal models has been identified. Two others have shown potent anti-diabetic

effect in rat model. An active compound has also been isolated and its blood sugar lowering effect has been confirmed in animal models.

There are several organisms (sponges, corals, echinodermata) which have been identified to have potent hepato protective property (that protects liver), also effective against blood pressure (Hypotensive) and showing Central Nervous Systems depressant action. A coral effective against amoebiasis in animal models also has been identified.

Research in the following priority areas is being actively pursued.

(i) Antifertility, (ii) Antiviral, (iii) Antiparasitic (specially antimalarial), (iv) Antiamebic, (v) CVS and CNS (cardiovascular & Nervous System) active, (vi) Antidiabetic and (vii) insecticidal/pesticidal agents.

Harnessing of NCES

2864. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the details about various activities undertaken by the Government to tap/harness non-conventional energy in Kerala; and

(b) the details of places identified for the projects and allocation made for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) The Government is promoting development and utilisation of non-conventional energy technologies by providing grants in aid, fiscal and financial incentives and creating awareness in the country including in the State of Kerala. The list of the non-conventional energy systems installed in Kerala with financial support of the Government is given in the enclosed statement.

(b) 140 Small Hydro sites with aggregating capacity of 156 MW and 7 sites for generation of power from wind have been identified. In principle approval for 2 small hydro projects with total capacity of 5.5 MW has been given under the demonstration programme with 50% cost sharing for the electrical and mechanical components. A 2 MW wind farm has been commissioned at Kanjlkode and another of 2 MW capacity is under implementation at Kottathara under the demonstration programme with 50% funding by the Government for the equipments.

A target of 1500 biogas plants, 70,000 improved chulhas and 5000 solar lanterns has been fixed for the State of Kerala for the current financial year and accordingly an allocation of Rs. 42 lakh for biogas plants, Rs. 42.50

lakhs for improved chullas and Rs. 80 lakh for solar lanterns have been made.

STATEMENT

Details of NRSE Systems Installed under MNES funded Programmes in the State of Kerala

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Biogas Plants (Nos.) | 42,100 |
| 2. Improved Chulhas (Nos.) | 4,50,000 |
| 3. Biomass Gasifiers (Nos.) | 10 |
| 4. Solar Thermal (a) Collector area m ² | 2,395 |
| (b) Solar Cookers (Nos.) | 188 |
| 5. Solar Photovoltaics | |
| (a) Solar Lanterns (Nos.) | 4,310 |
| (b) Solar Domestic Lights (nos.) | 715 |
| (c) Solar Community Lights (nos.) | 31 |
| (d) Solar Street Lights | 420 |
| (e) Solar Power Plant (KW) | 4 (4.7 KW) |
| (f) SPV Pumping systems (nos.) | 61 |
| 6. Power | |
| (a) Wind Power | 2.00 MW |
| (b) Small Hydro Power | 8.02 MW |

Re-Emergence of T.B.

2865. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of re-emergence of tuberculosis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to check its re-emergence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA) : (a) to (c). the statistics about the number of TB cases reported during the last three years reveals that there is no re-emergence of the disease.

The National Tuberculosis Control programme launched by the Government in 1962 has succeeded in reducing mortality rate. Childhood TB and serious form of Tuberculosis in adults are on the decline. The efforts being made to combat the disease are by expanding the National Tuberculosis Control Programme and through its effective implementation. A revised strategy to detect TB case through quality microscopy and to achieve 85% cure rate among new sputum positive cases and Directly Observed

Therapy (DOT) of more effective short course chemotherapy is being tested in selected project areas in five districts and ten cities.

K.V.I.C.

2866. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Ministry of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) decided to entrust the work of restructuring of KVIC manpower to the Indian Institute of Administration (IIA);

(b) if so, the date of awarding the work;

(c) whether the KVIC has received the report; and

(d) if not, the steps taken to expedite the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) accepted the work on 7.11.94.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) KVIC is continuously pursuing the matter with the IIPA for early finalization of the report.

Fact Finding Committee.

2867. DR. SUDHIR RAY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Committee was appointed by the Government to inquire into the alleged irregularities and mismanagement in the Electronic Trade and Technology Development Corporation Ltd.

(b) if so, the nature of charges into which the said Committee is probing;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details of its recommendations; and

(e) if not, when the Committee is expected to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS, AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). A Fact Finding Board of Enquiry was appointed to investigate into the specific complaints received from Members of Parliament and associations against the management of ET&T Ltd.