

Patents by National laboratories during Sixth Plan

4581. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of the new industrial processes patented by the national Laboratories during the Sixth Plan period;

(b) how many of these patents have found industrial application by entrepreneurs;

(c) whether many of these patents have failed since these have not been tried in pilot plants before passing on the patents to entrepreneurs;

(d) whether remedial measures are being taken in this direction;

(e) whether the fees prescribed for passing on these new technologies to entrepreneurs are high; and

(f) if so, steps being taken to reduce the fees ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) During the Sixth Five Year Plan period, 215 new industrial processes were developed by CSIR Laboratories. Out of these, 40 processes were covered by Indian patents. Also during this period, nearly 200 Indian patents have been granted to CSIR.

(b) Out of these processes, 150 have already been released to entrepreneurs for exploitation.

(c) No, Sir. The processes developed by CSIR are technically viable.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The fees for licensing of CSIR technologies are modest and are generally lower than the charges for same or similar knowhow available from other sources.

(f) Does not arise.

Involvement of public for environmental protection

4582. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to give encouragement and grant incentives to public to generate their involvement for conservation and protection of environment; and

(b) if so, details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b). The following incentives have been provided to individuals and corporate bodies for securing their involvement in conservation and environmental protection.

(i) Any sum paid by a taxpayer to any association or institution which has as its object, the undertaking of programmes of conservation of natural resources to be used for such purposes is allowed as deduction computing his taxable income provided that the association/institution, as also the programme of conservation of natural resources have been approved by the prescribed authority.

(ii) Depreciation is allowed at the higher rate of 30 per cent as against the general rate of 15 per cent in respect of specified machinery and plant installed for control of air pollution, water pollution and solid waste.

(iii) Investment allowance is granted at the higher rate of 35 per cent as against the normal rate of 25 per cent of the actual cost of new machinery and plant installed which would assist in control of pollution and protection of environment and which have been notified in this behalf by the Central Government.

(iv) Where a company owning an industrial undertaking situated in