

STATEMENT

[English]

The Government has set up a new Department of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy in March 1995 for the development and promotion of these system including Yoga & Naturopathy in the country. Details are as follows:—

- (i) Strengthening of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy Education Institutions, Financial Assistance is given for upgradation of facilities in educational institutions of Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy.
- (ii) Standardisation of Indian System of Medicine & Homoeopathy drugs, setting up of Laboratory facilities for the testing of Indian System of Medicine & Homoeopathy Drugs.
- (iii) Re-orientation training to in-service Teachers, Physicians and Researchers.
- (iv) (a) Development and cultivation of Medicinal Plants used in Indian System of Medicine and Homoeopathy medicines.
(b) Scheme for Development of Agro-Techniques & Cultivation of medicinal plants.
- (v) Strengthening and establishment of premier Institutes in these systems of Medicine such as National Institute of Ayurveda, Jaipur, National Institute of Homoeopathy, Calcutta, Institutes of Post-Graduate Training & Research in Ayurveda-Jamnagar, Rashtriya Ayurveda Vidhyapeeth, Delhi, National Institute of Unani Medicine, Bangalore and National Institute of Naturopathy, Pune.
- (vi) Research in Indian Systems of Medicine & Homoeopathy is supported through various Central Councils of Research in Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, Homoeopathy, Yoga and Naturopathy.
- (vii) Central scheme for functioning of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani Pharmacopoeia Committees to develop Pharmacopoeial standards for ISM Drugs, and standardization of drugs and testing of drugs through the Pharmacopical Laboratory of Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy pharmacopoeia laboratory of Gaziabad.

ISRO Flooded

46. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the headquarters of the Indian Space Research Organisation were inundated with rain water recently;

(b) if so, the extent of damage done to scientific equipments or other things; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent recurrence of such events?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (c) The basement of Antariksh Bhavan which houses the Department of Space and the Headquarters of the Indian Space Research Organisation in Bangalore was inundated by unprecedented rain on the night of September 30, 1997 and morning of October 1, 1997. This caused flooding and sudden gushing of water into the building. The flooding occurred mainly due to the fact that Bangalore City received as much as 17.98 cms of rain during the period of around 24 hours and also because of the inadequacy of area drainage system in the locality.

The basement area where the Library, Conference Room, Seminar Hall, Record and Stationery Rooms and Telephone Exchange are located, was affected. However, timely action taken by the Department to drain out the stagnated water early minimised the loss. No scientific equipments are located in the basement. Hence, there was no damage to them. The total loss is approximately Rs. 16.75 lakhs.

Since flooding of Antriksh Bhavan was mainly due to gushing of water from the adjoining areas, the local Municipal Authorities have been approached to improve area drainage system and also to ensure clearance and desilting of the drainage network at regular intervals for their functional efficacy.

Satellite Launching

47. SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the News item captioned, "US Okays firing laser to disable satellite" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated 4th October, 1997;