

NATIONAL SUPER-CONDUCTIVITY PROGRAMME

292. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the objectives of the National Super-Conductivity Programme in the context of "Development of Technology" in the country ;

(b) whether development of an efficient conductor so as to minimise losses in the power transmission system is also a part of this programme; and

(c) if so, the progress and achievements of the National Super-Conductivity Programme till date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI-MATI MARGARET ALVA) . (a) The broad objectives of National Super-Conductivity Programme (NSP) in the context of "development of technology", according to the Govt Resolution of 27th Feb., 1991, on National Superconductivity Science & Technology Board (NSTB), are as follows.

- (i) Synthesis of high quality High Temperature Super-Conducting (HTSC) materials in bulk quantities .
- (ii) Making performed/shaped objects, wires, tapes and cables out of super-conducting materials .
- (iii) Development/engineering of super-conducting devices/subsystems/systems for a variety of applications, including electronics/electrical application; and
- (iv) Development/engineering of prototype electromagnets for use in industrial and electrical applications; and
- (v) Promotion of industrialisation of super-conductivity technology.

(b) and (c) Individual projects within the above broad objectives have been supported. Power transmission applications of

superconductivity and development of superconducting wires for this use are not envisaged at the present state of technology. Superconductors could minimise the transmission losses by minimising resistive losses in the lines but these require cryogenic environment for the operations, and the techno-economic advantages of super-conducting wires vis-a-vis High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) Transmission, etc for various applications are yet to be established. In NSP in India, a few projects have been taken up in the area of high temperature superconducting wires/tape development for general purpose use.

R & D PROJECTS FOR DEVELOPING TECHNOLOGIES FOR TRANSFER

293 SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) the list of R&D projects so far supported by the Union Government for developing technologies for transfer ;

(b) the names of technologies resulting from such projects; and

(c) the follow-up action taken by industry in each case for commercialisation of such technologies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI-MATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

INFORMATION REGARDING PEPSI PROJECTS

294 SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to refer to the reply given on 27 February, 1991 to USQ No. 767 and state :

(a) whether the team constituted by the Government to visit the various Pepsi Projects and assess the present status has since collected the facts and information from M/s Pepsi Foods;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay and the action taken to expedite the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) The team has since submitted its report regarding status of M/s Pepsi Foods Private Ltd. till December, 1990 to the Government

(b) The team has, inter alia, reported that :

- (i) The Company has set up plants for potato|gram processing, soft drink concentrate and fruit and vegetable processing in Punjab.
 - (ii) The Company has also taken steps to encourage the farmers in developing nursery protected under polythene cover for growing tomato seedlings and to grow good quality high yielding hybrid tomatoes by adopting deep chiesling techniques.
 - (iii) Equipment for the manufacture of apple juice concentrate and pear juice concentrate as well as concentration with energy saving diffusion process have not been imported/commissioned.
 - (iv) The sale turnover of soft drink concentrate has apparently been depressed.
 - (v) No experts of own manufactured products i.e. fruit and vegetable products, processed potato|grain products and soft drink concentrate manufactured in the three units under the Pepsi Project for which LOI/FC approval was granted has been made.
- (c) Does not arise.

OBSERVANCE OF CLOSED HOLIDAYS IN KENDRIYA BHANDAR

295. SHRI RAJNTH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kendriya Bhandar are observing more number of closed holidays

in respect of its branch stores than what is being observed by the Super Bazar branch stores;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken that the working hours and working days of both the Super Bazar and the Kendriya Bhandar are identical to ensure least inconvenience to the consumers which the consumers are facing now in view of frequent holidays in the branch stores of Kendriya Bhandar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI-MATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) Yes Sir

(b) The Kendriya Bhandar and Super Bazar are separate organisations having their own policies relating to working hours and holidays

(c) It may not be feasible to bring the working hours and working days of both the organisations on par at this stage.

LTC FACILITIES TO GOVERNMENT SERVANTS

296. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given on 25th February, 1991 to Unstarred Question No. 297 and state :

(a) whether the embargo on availing of LTC facility by the Government employees, has since been lifted ;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and by when it will be lifted ;

(c) whether the time to avail the LTC facility for the four years block 1986-89 which was extended upto June, 1991 has been further extended upto September, 1991 ; and

(d) the facilities proposed to be provided to the employees at the visiting places to make their journeys happy, pleasant and meaningful ?