

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4128
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2010
MARINE TECHNOLOGY CENTRE
Bavalia Shri Kuvarjibhai Mohanbhai

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Marine Biotechnology Centres functioning under the Ministry in the country, location-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has received proposals from the State Governments including State of Gujarat for establishment of Marine Biotechnology Centres in their respective States; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR EARTH SCIENCES (PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a): There are no Centres of Marine Biotechnology under Ministry of Science & Technology. However, the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India has sanctioned a proposal titled "DBT Programme support for research in aquaculture and marine biotechnology" in project mode at College of Fisheries, Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University, Mangalore on 29-08-2007 for a period of 5 years with a total cost of `160.64 lakhs. Besides this, Gujarat State Biotechnology Mission, DST, Government of Gujarat had funded a Centre of Excellence in Marine Biotechnology at Central Salt & Marine Chemicals Research Institute (CSIR), Bhavnagar in 2005 for an initial period of 3 years which was extended by a further period of 24 months. The amount of funding was 110 lakhs.

(b) and (c): The Department of Biotechnology has received a proposal from Govt. of Gujarat on "Establishment of Marine Biotech Incubation Centre in the Marine Biotech Park in the State". This was considered by the Expert Committee on 04-10-2007 and thereafter on 05-03-2009. The Committee desired that a revised proposal may be submitted. This will be considered as and when revised proposal is received.