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Title: The Minister Overseas Indian Affairs and Minister Of Parliamentary Affairs laid a statement regarding Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 197th Report of the Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on action taken on the observations/recommendations contained in the 186th Report on Demands for Grants (2008-09), pertaining to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science and Technology.

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): Sir, on behalf of Shri Kapil Sibal, I beg to make a statement in pursuance of Direction No. 73A of the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha issued vide Lok Sabha Bulletin, Part II, dated 1st September, 2004 to inform the esteemed House about the status of implementation on the actions taken by the Government on One hundred ninety seventh Report on the action taken on recommendations contained in One hundred eighty sixth Report of the Demands for Grants of Department of Scientific & Industrial Research (DSIR) for the year 2008-09.

The Committee, while reviewing the working and considering the detailed Demands for Grants of DSIR, analyzed the Demands for Grants with reference to the aims, objectives and achievements of the Department and presented the 186th Report thereon to the House on the 29th April 2008. There were nineteen recommendations, which are both advisory and appreciative, contained in 186th Report of the Committee. The Department has furnished a detailed Action Taken Note on these recommendations to the Committee in July 2008. The Committee has considered the ATN and presented the One hundred ninety seventh Report to both the Houses on 23rd October, 2008. The recommendations of the Committee vide 197th Report were analyzed in the Department. Significant ones are:

â€¢ The Committee felt that *"there should not be unjustified decrease in fund allocation as the future of the country depends upon its technological prowess and the R&D projects of the Department play an important role in this regard."* The Committee reiterated that *"the Department should pursue its demand for higher allocation with the Planning Commission at RE stage"*

â€¢ The Committee hopes that *"Technology Development and Demonstration Programme Small Business will be a success during Eleventh Five Plan period and provide the required impetus to the small and medium industrial units"-,*

â€¢ The Committee desires that *"the Department would finalize a time bound plan and set up Rural Technology Demonstration Centre to share the knowledge gained in the laboratories with the rural masses",*

â€¢ The Committee recommends that *"R&D related to manufacturing cheap solar photovoltaic cells should be accorded top priority, so that solar power can be provided to the poor sections of the Society at an affordable cost",*

â€¢ The Committee recommends that *"more number of solar water pumps may be supplied to the farmers across the country at subsidized prices",*

â€¢ The Committee recommends that *"the Department should make sustained efforts for the development of desalinization plants across the country";*

â€¢ The Committee recommends that *"efforts for R&D to find complete solution to common mans disease such as Malaria, Polio, Tuberculosis etc should be intensified",*

â€¢ The Committee hopes that *"the Department will pursue the issue of land allotment to CSIR in cities of Hyderabad and Kolkata";*

â€¢ The Committee is of the view that *"Human Resource Development Scheme should not remain only on paper but should be implemented in letter and spirit",*

â€¢ The Committee is of the view that *"the Department would be able to satisfy aspirations of the country as regards growth of scientific research and development, providing scientific manpower and other associated responsibilities".*

The Action Taken Note on 197th report has been forwarded to Rajya Sabha Secretariat on 03.02.09, copy of which is annexed.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 10515/09)

