

has also given powers to MTNL for purchasing equipment and stores required by it without reference to Department of Telecommunications.

[English]

Interface Among Research Network, Industry and Academics

3748. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government have taken any decision to have a strong interface among the State-run Science and technology research network, industry and academics; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Science & Technology activities in the country are promoted through the science & technology agencies/departments and network of research institutions, academic institutions and the industry. Government have recognised the need for strong interface to forge powerful partnerships among the S&T research network system, industry and academics. This is being ensured by having strong representation of the S&T research network system, industry and academics in the S&T Policy making bodies of the Government, Research Advisory Councils of the National Research Laboratories, Governing Councils of the academic institutions and other such bodies.

Allotment of PCO/ISD/STD Booths

[Translation]

3749. SHRI ANUP LAL YADAV:

SHRI BIJOY KUMAR "BIJOY":

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of PCO/ISD/STD booths allotted to the women in rural areas of Bihar particularly Banipur, Trimuhani Ghat, Bahara, Darbhanga regions during the last three years;

(b) whether all the women have got the connections;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a)(i) The total number of PCO/ISD/STD booths allotted in rural area of Bihar during the last 3 years = 1160.

(ii) Particularly in Banipur, Trimuhani Ghat, Bahara, Darbhanga, 13 PCO/ISD/STD booths were allotted.

(iii) No separate records are maintained for women applicants.

(b) and (c) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

(d) There is no provision in the rules to treat women in special category. The PCO is allotted upto 5% of working capacity of exchange as per position in the waiting list.

[English]

Publication of Research Papers

3750. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the study published in the Journal Current Science that the number of research papers published by Indian Scientists is declining, with the country slipping from eighth position in 1989 to 12th in 1992; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The study is based on the Science Citation Index (SCI) database of four years (1989-1992) brought out by the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI), USA. During 1980, SCI database included 35 Indian Journals in its coverage. This coverage has shrunk from 35 in 1980 to 12 in 1991. As a result, the number of research papers by Indian scientists included in SCI database has gone down as compared to 1980 data. From 1991 onwards, the number of Indian journals covered in SCI is constant. Infact, in absolute terms the number of Indian research papers published has increased from 10468 in 1991 to 11160 in 1992.

Compensatory Afforestation

3751. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any targets have been set out for compensatory afforestation for the State of Nagaland in pursuant to Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) Compensatory afforestation is one of the essential condition stipulated while giving approval for diversion of forest land for non-forest uses. Compensatory afforestation is generally required to be done on equivalent non-forest land. In case of non-availability of non-forest land and in certain categories of projects, it is required to be carried out on degraded forest land double in extent of area being diverted under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. No target have been set out for compensatory afforestation for the State of Nagaland in pursuant to Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 as no proposal has been given approval till date for diversion of forest land in Nagaland under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.