

**SHRI SUKH RAM :** I am not aware whether the functioning of the Planning Commission has not been scrutinised by the Public Accounts Committee. I will write him a letter in this regard.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** A lot of debate has taken place and we are told that it is a very sensitive area; that is why we don't include. And the Minister says that he does not know ?

**THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI RAJIV GANDHI) :** The Hon. Member has only asked one specific question, whether it is a movement for protecting the holy cow. And I will say no.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** I am not demanding for cow slaughter.

**SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI :** The fact is that the Planning Commission occupies a most important position today in the disbursement of funds and comparatively the Finance Commission plays a subordinate role. Whereas the Finance Commission has a constitutional status the Planning Commission does not have a constitutional status. Therefore, will the Government give a constitutional status to the Planning Commission so that the complaint from the State Governments may not be there that constitutional status has been given to this and the Central Government may put a stamp over the State Governments ?

**SHRI SUKH RAM :** This aspect was entrusted to a high level committee and after necessary scrutiny and deliberations it was found that it is not possible to give constitutional status to the Planning Commission because under the Constitution, the functions of the Union and the States have been well defined and demarcated. In view of this fact, it is not possible.

Moreover, the Prime Minister happens to be the chairman of this Commission. So, this Commission needs that authority which is necessary to ensure implementa-

tion of its suggestions and recommendations.

#### Re orientation of CSIR

\*327. **SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal for re-orientation of CSIR on the lines of Korea Institute of Science and Technology which took up development of technology for specific users; and

(b) If so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN) :** (a) No, Sir. The functions of the Korean Institute of Science and Technology are very limited as compared to the charter of, CSIR. It is understood that in 1985 Korean Institute of Science and Technology was merged with Korea Advance Institute of Science (KAIS) which has a charter approaching that of the CSIR.

(b) Does not arise.

**SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER :** Sir, although South Korea has very few resources yet it has achieved tremendous economic growth because of increased production through technological innovations and improved efficiency. In answer to a written Question No. 1036 dated 31st July, 1986 the Prime Minister had replied that a review committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Abid Hussain, Member, Planning Commission has been set-up to examine the various aspects of the functioning of CSIR and to suggest measures to be taken for improvement. May I know whether this Committee has submitted its report ? If so, what are its main recommendations and the action taken by the Government on those recommendations ?

**SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN :** As regards the first part of the question Korea's general development is a different matter and science and technology is only part of the issue. In a vast country like India the nature of the problems and the type of solutions are very different from Korea.

As regards the committee set-up by the Prime Minister to review the CSIR actually the report has not yet been submitted. We expect that the report would be submitted by the end of December and at that time, I think, we will be able to say something more about it.

**SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER :** May I know whether any infrastructure has been built up to transfer the technology developed in the laboratories under the CSIR to the industry? If so, has it been evaluated. Please give the figures for the last 2-3 years as to what is the cost involved and what is the return that we had from the transfer of technology?

**SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN :** The primary task of CSIR is to develop technologies which can be transferred to industries as well as to agriculture. The total value of goods produced in industries in India as a result of technologies emanating from CSIR is about Rs. 500 crores. Many contracts have been given to private as well as Government enterprises involving Rs. 20 crores for development of products and processes. Currently CSIR has a contract for Rs. 40 crores from private sector as well as Government organisation.

**SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA :** It is true that the contribution of CSIR in the advancement of scientific and industrial progress of our country is appreciable. But it is also a fact that today our country is the biggest buyer of technology in the international market. We are spending Rs. 500 crores every year in the name of new technology and new development. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what is the contribution of CSIR in the development of advanced and appropriate technology which is commercially

viable and acceptable to the entrepreneurs? I would also like to know whether Government would associate the Council as a local consultant with the input of technology and know-how and how much we are investing in R & D every year?

**SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN :** As regards the first question about import of technology it is true that we are importing technology on a big scale. This is largely because the world has moved into a new era of technological development. So it is necessary for us to have not only old technologies but new technologies developed in other parts of the world. That is one of the major reason for having a larger import of technology today. As regards the second question CSIR has developed technologies which are in actual use in many areas in agriculture as well as in industry. For example, we have the National Physical Laboratory, the commodity laboratories like the Leather Research Laboratory, Madras. Then we have the drugs laboratory, where many drugs have been newly invented and actually in the coming February, the Prime Minister is going to inaugurate in Lucknow four new drugs produced by CSIR technology. There are many other areas like ocean development. We have the CSIR National Institute of Oceanography; they have surveyed 300,000 square kms of Indian ocean and discovered modules which contain very valuable metals. For example, in the Bhopal tragedy, under the leadership of the CSIR Director General, the first relief was given. I can tell many areas like that. New petroleum products have been invented as additives. They have also devised new methods of survey of water pipelines under water. These are all great achievements.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Send all that to the hon. Member. Please be short.

**SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN :** The advice of CSIR is taken when we know that their advice would be useful in certain sectors. They also sit in some of the important meetings.

**SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :** Is it not a fact that a large number of processes and inventions developed by various CSIR laboratories all over the country have remained at the bench level and because of lack of funds these processes could not be developed to the highest skill and given to the entrepreneurs? NRDC is the clearing House for these laboratories.

**SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN :** I think that some processes invented by the CSIR could not be actually used, but the utilization rate of CSIR technology is much higher than for example technologies in the British Technology Group. Forty per cent of the CSIR technologies are actually being used, while the utilization of such technologies in Britain is only 14.5 per cent. Therefore, there is a high rate of utilization of know how and processes devised by CSIR by our industry.

**SHRI C. P. THAKUR :** This is an era of technology revolution and most of the advanced countries in order to keep pace with the advancement in technology have started a technology nursery in which they develop, indigenise and use their technology for the development of the country. Will our hon. Minister think to start such a technology nursery also?

**SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN :** I do not exactly know the concept of the technology nursery, but all our technology laboratories are nurseries of technology, in fact, where technology is born as well as nurtured. We also have the concept of technology parks where advanced technology from abroad is introduced, developed and popularised.

#### Forest clearance for Nagarjuna Sagar Left Canals

\*328. **SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :** Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested Union Government for expeditious clearance of

forest lands required for Nagarjuna Sagar Left Canals excavation in Khammam and Krishna districts;

(b) whether an officer deputed from the Forest Research Institute, Bangalore inspected the forest lands involved and if so, what was his report; and

(c) the likely date by which the clearance will be given?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BHAJAN LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An officer from the Sandal Research Centre, Bangalore, who inspected the forest land to be diverted for Nagarjuna Sagar left canals has recommended clearance of the proposal.

(c) Some essential information is still awaited from the State Government. Final decision can be taken only after receipt of the lacking data.

[English]

**SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :** I am very happy with the answer to part (b) of the question, where it is very clearly stated that the officer who was deputed to examine the forest land has recommended for clearance of the proposal because practically there are no trees.

But I am very unhappy with the answer to part (c) of the question. The same rituals cannot be uttered in a marriage function as well as in the obsequious functions connected with death. In fact this project was started in 1956 and when our late Prime Minister Jawahar Lalji laid the foundation for it, he said that these were the temples of the modern world. The project was expected to be completed by the end of the Fourth Plan, but due to paucity of funds, it continued all these years. The present problem is only with regard to digging of canals in