

Setting up a Township for Indian Scientists Working Abroad

*466. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to set up a township to attract the Indian scientists working abroad;

(b) if so, the details and the facilities that will be given to the scientists; and

(c) the estimated cost of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Indian Scientists Working Abroad

*473 SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI .

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that some prominent Indian scientists and technologists in USA, U. K. and France are thinking of returning to India if they get better Prospects and avenues to work here;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in the matter; and

(c) the outcome of any negotiations with them through our embassies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE AND ELECTRONICS. (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) A number of scientists and technologists have expressed a desire to come back to India.

(b) The Government has initiated a number of measures to attract Indian Scientists and Technologists settled abroad to come back to this country. Some of these are :—

1. Total outlay for science & technology has been increased and fellowship and associateship have been provided alongwith appropriate facilities.

2. There is a provision for temporary placement of scientists and technologists under the scheme of 'Scientists' Pool'. In many cases Indian scientists are considered for appointments in Indian institutions in absentia.

3. Facilities to import equipment to the scientists returning from abroad have been provided.

4. There are a number of schemes for recognising talented young scientists and providing them appropriate research facilities.

5. New scientific departments/organisations such as Departments of Environment, Ocean Development, New Energy Sources, National Biotechnology Board etc. have been set up and some of these are in the high technology areas.

6. Delegation of enhanced administrative and financial powers have been made to scientific institutions to improve the working conditions of scientists.

(c) The embassies are not equipped to have detailed negotiations with distinguished scientists and technologists belonging to various disciplines.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Several incentives are being offered to the entrepreneurs through our recent Budget. Our Prime Minister has also appealed to people abroad—either Indian scientists or engineers—to come and set up industries in our country. In view of this, will Government consider a proposal to set up a