

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1510
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2006
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
Singh Shri Sugrib

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

- (a) whether Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) coordinate and cooperate with various international organizations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the activities of Asia Pacific Centre for Technology Transfer (APCTT) during 2005-06 and proposed for 2006-07

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) & (b) DSIR coordinates and cooperates primarily with UN-APCTT. DSIR is the nodal government department for APCTT and offers annual institutional and programme support to APCTT. APCTT is a body of UN ESCAP, whose functions in India are coordinated by the Department of Commerce. Other international organization with whom DSIR co-operated is UNESCO – Asia Pacific Information Network.

(c) The APCTT activities described are for the calendar years 2005 and 2006 as that is the way they are recorded and maintained in APCTT.

Activities of APCTT during 2005 included: organizing workshops to build capacity and share good practices in national policy formulation for National Innovation Systems (NIS); facilitating the establishment of the networks of technology transfer intermediaries in the region to promote cross-border business cooperation among small and medium-scale enterprises (SMEs); setting up websites, viz. Business-Asia.net and Technology4sme.net; promoting networks, viz. the Asia Pacific Traditional Medicine and Herbal Technology (APTMNET) Network and the Biotechnology Information Network for Asia (BINASIA); and bringing out publications viz. Asia Pacific Tech Monitor and Value Added Technology Information Service (VATIS).

Activities of APCTT proposed for 2006 include: working closely with the Society for Research and Initiatives for Sustainable Technologies and Institutions (SRISTI), an NGO in India, on a collaborative project to organize various activities that are required to scout, document and disseminate green grassroots innovations and traditional knowledge; strengthening the networks namely APTMNET and BINASIA through appropriate mechanisms; and formulating new project proposals for establishing an R&D Network in the Asia Pacific Region and strengthening Technology Transfer Services in the Asia Pacific Region.