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Title: The Minister of State in the Ministry of Finance laid the statement regarding Status of implementation of the recommendations contained in the 244th Report of the Standing Committee on Science and Technology, Environment and Forests on Demands for Grants (2013-14), pertaining to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science and Technology.

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THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM): On behalf of Shri S. Jaipal Reddy, I am laying this 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 recommendations contained in Two Hundred Forty Fourth Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants of Department of Scientific & Industrial Research (DSIR) for the year 2013-2014.

The Committee, while reviewing the working and considering the detailed Demands for Grants of DSIR, analyzed the same with reference to the aims, objectives and achievements of the Department and presented the 244th Report thereon to both the Houses on 8th May, 2013. There were 23 recommendations in 244th Report of the Committee. Majority of them were advisory and appreciative in nature. The Department has furnished a detailed Action Taken Note on these recommendations to the Committee on 07.08.2013.

Excerpts of some of the most significant recommendations are as under:

- The Committee feels that though the utilization of funds of the Department is impressive, the Committee recommends that the Department should make endeavour to improve it further;
- The Committee is of the view that in order to fulfill aspirations of modern India, CSIR should aim to become amongst at least first 10 global organization in its field and it should strive hard to achieve that ranking within next 5 years, for that alone would give it position of pride in the hearts of millions of young men & women;
- The Committee appreciates development of Granito tiles and e-health centre initiative, which the Committee hopes will help in bringing affordable health services to the doorsteps of people. The Committee, accordingly, recommends that the Department should strive towards making these breakthroughs commercially viable;
- The Committee is pleased to note that the Department has agreed to widen the ambit of 250 handholding scholarships to include not only dyslexic students but also students suffering from other serious physical disabilities as recommended by the Committee in its 227th Report;
- The Committee welcomes setting up of Innovation Complexes which will have world class facilities and help catalyze innovation ecosystem of the region;
- The Committee recommends that the Consultancy Development Centre must formulate a potent action plan to develop and promote consultancy capabilities in the country so that consultancy emerges as a viable career option in the country;
- The Committee lauds the objective with which CSIR 800 scheme has been launched. The Committee also recommends that the Department should formulate more such schemes to augment the income of poor and quality of their lives;
- The Committee appreciates the novel objective of Open Source Drug Discovery Programme i.e. to make healthcare affordable to the common man. The Committee hopes that programme would lead to affordable treatment of these diseases for common man.; and
- The Committee notes skill development training programme organized by NRDC for the people of North Eastern States & for women's empowerment and is particularly happy on setting up of post-harvest technology centres.

The copy of the Action Taken Note on 244th Report, which was forwarded to Rajya Sabha Secretariat on 07.08.2013, is laid on the Table.

...(Interruptions)

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