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Title: The Minister of State of Science and Technology made a statement regarding sequencing of the First Human Genome in India.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): Madam, I am very happy to inform the august House that the scientists of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) working at Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (IGIB) for the first time have successfully decoded the Human Genome in India.

The first human genome sequence in the world was a result of the International Human Genome Project comprising of scientists from six countries.

This large international collaborate Project began in 1990 and the sequencing was completed in 2003 after 13 years. This spectacular feat at that time was hailed equivalent to the man landing on the moon. India could not be a part of this initiative in the early nineties because of the resource constraints.

With the completion of the first human genome sequence in India, we are now in the league of few select countries like United States, United Kingdom, China, Canada, and Korea. Scientists of CSIR could achieve this feat by adopting new technologies and by effectively integrating complex computational and bioinformatics tools with high throughput analytical capabilities using super computers.

The sequencing of the first human genome in India, therefore, sets the stage for India's entry into the elite club which will open up new possibilities in diagnostics, treatment and low-cost affordable healthcare in future for the masses.

(Placed in Library, See No. LT 1097/15/09)

MADAM SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow the 9th December 2009 at 11 a.m.

18.37 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock

on Wednesday, December 9, 2009 / Agrahayana 18, 1931 (Saka).

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★ English translation of the speech laid originally in Tamil

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