

(b) The targets to bring the population above the poverty line will be incorporated in the Eighth Plan which is under preparation.

Decisions taken at COMINAC-III

1719. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the main proposals mooted by India during the Third Conference of Ministers of Information of Non-Aligned Countries (COMINAC-III) in Havana;

(b) the reaction of other participating countries thereto;

(c) the details of decisions taken; and

(d) the action being initiated to implement those decisions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Setting up of a Non-aligned Film Pool as also a Non-aligned Photo Pool were the Indian proposals.

(b) The Indian proposals were prime facie widely acceptable to the participating countries;

(c) and (d). The modalities are being worked out. No final decision has been taken so far.

Legislation on Handicapped

1720. SHRI P.C. THOMAS:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring forward a legislation for the welfare of physically and mentally handicapped;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to provide reservations for such persons in educational institutions; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The details are under finalisation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

ISRO's Technology Transfer Scheme

1721. SHRI PRATAP SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Indian Space Research Organisations technology transfer scheme; and

(b) to what extent the above scheme has so far promoted the commercialisation of technologies developed in the space programme for applications to various sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) and (b). Under the Technology Transfer Scheme of the Indian Space Research Organisation the partnership with Indian Industry is promoted and strengthened by

— meeting the requirements of the space programme's own projects through buy-backs of products produced by industry based on ISRO technology transfer;

- servicing the rapidly expanding space applications markets in India catalysed by the space programme, in the fields of satellite communications, remote sensing for natural resources survey and management, environmental monitoring, etc.
- exploiting the full potential of various technologies developed by the space programme for multifarious (non-space) spin off applications;

- provision of technological consultancy services through a special scheme from ISRO to Indian Industry in various technical areas;
- execution of specialised R & D fabrication tasks by selected high technology industries and technological institutions;

Around 168 ISRO technologies have so far been successfully transferred as given below:

1. Electronics, Electro-mechanical and Computers:	29
2. Materials and Chemicals:	47
3. Telecommunication, Meteorology and TV hardware:	52
4. Optics and opto-electronics:	28
5. Mechanical and others :	12

Of these, 7 technologies are for ISRO buy-back, 64 are for Space applications promotions and 97 for applications in various other sectors. Around 130 technologies have already been productionised and the remaining are in the pipeline for productionisation.

Central Investment in Tamil Nadu

1722. SHRI P.R.S. VENKATESAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the Central investment made in the backward district of Tamil Nadu for the development of industries during the last one year;

(b) whether the Union Government have received any requests from the Government of Tamil Nadu for more central investment in

the backward district of South Arcot, North Arcot, Tanjavur, Pudukottai and Dharampuri; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRIKAMAL MORARKA): (a) Central Plan investment is made for the country as a whole keeping national priorities in view. These Central programmes/projects in most cases transcend the limits of State boundaries. The fruits of these programmes/projects also get spread all over the country. Planning Commission do not maintain data on Central investments in terms of parts of States.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.