

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO 2930
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29/08/2011

ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY IN GENERATING SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD

2930. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that technology can play a role in generating sustainable livelihood and to create inclusive growth in the backward areas of our country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken in this direction in Karnataka compared to other States during the last three years; and
- (d) the future programmes worked out, so far, for the remaining Eleventh Five Year Plan?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES

(ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) & (b): Yes Sir. The socio-economic development programmes of the Ministry of Science and Technology primarily aim at reaching technology to the weaker sections of the society so that they derive benefit in terms of sustainable livelihoods, reduced drudgery and in general an improved quality of life. Technology is a key enabler and a tool for empowerment of the people in every sphere of application. The pre-eminent role of Science and Technology in ensuring increase of sustainable growth is well established. Technology has a role to play in different ways on various initiatives of the goal in the furtherance of its pro-poor Schemes.

(c) In Karnataka a number of projects have been implemented for generating sustainable livelihood and to create inclusive growth in areas of both farm and non farm activities to include diversified agriculture, post harvest processing, nursery technology, biofertilizers, food processing, medicinal & aromatic plants, cottage industries, low cost housing, energy, skill up gradation in sectors such as electronics, sericulture, technology upgradation for Kolhapuri footwear and de-flouridization of drinking water etc. Similar projects have been implemented in other states of the country also.

(d) Future programmes worked out so far for the remaining period of the 11th Five Year Plan are waste management for value addition and income generation, facilitating rural / women technology parks, sanitary napkin production units and a 13 part radio serial on Gender Empowerment in Kannada is being broadcast from a number of AIR stations in Karnataka. Issues of sustainable livelihood nutrition occupational health etc are highlighted in the radio serial. A project CSIR 800 aims at providing a better life to 800 million people in the country by bringing solutions in the area of health, agriculture and energy. The above is an illustrative and not an exhaustive list of initiatives taken and to be continued.
