

CHAPTER - 16

SCIENTIFIC SERVICES AND RESEARCH

16.1 The Scientific Services and Research head covers Science and Technology Department and Environment Department.

16.2 Against a provision of Rs. 29.70 crores for the Eleventh Five Year Plan, Rs.2.81 crores were spent during 2007-08 and Rs.5.94 crores are likely to be spent during 2008-09. A sum of Rs. 2.20 crores is proposed for the Annual Plan 2009-10, which includes Rs. 200 lakhs for Science & Technology and Rs. 20 lakhs for Environment Department.

Science and Technology Department

16.3 Since inception of the department and its associated council (RAJCOST) in the year 1983, it has been the endeavour to initiate, support, promote and coordinate the activities in the field of science & technology by taking up of application oriented research and development projects and various programmes relating to transfer of technology, popularization of science and application of modern technology of remote sensing

16.4 To train the district level functionaries of various departments and to keep them well informed in their field, a satellite network (SATCOM) has been set up in the state.

16.5 Satellite Communication Network is operational in the State. Integrated HUB at Indira Gandhi Panchayati Raj Sansthan (IGPRS), Jaipur is being used for Telemedicine, Edusat and Gramsat activities. Under GRAMSAT Satellite Interactive Terminals (SITs) at Zila Parishads and Receive Only Terminals (ROTs) at all 237 Panchayat Samiti Head Quarters have been installed. Studio is also under preparation at Indira Gandhi Panchayati Raj Sansthan (IGPRS), Jaipur. The network will be used by various line departments of State for training and extension activities and relay of their development activities.

16.6 In order to harness the creativity of the people at the grass roots level and facilitate people to people networking among the innovators a GIAN Centre is functional since 2004 in the State in coordination with Honey Bee network and SRISTI of IIM, Ahemdabad and NIF.

16.7 Against a provision of Rs.25.00 crores for the XIth Five Year Plan, Rs. 2.34 crores were spent during the year 2007-08 and Rs. 5.68 crores are likely to be spent during 2008-09. A sum of Rs.2.00 crores is proposed for the year 2009-10 for various on-gong activities.

16.8 The existing science park at Jaipur will be upgraded as regional science centre with the technical support of NCSM, Kolkata, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Culture, Government of India.

For this purpose, Rs. 3.25 crores has already been provided to NCSM, Kolkata during the year 2008-09.

Research & Development Division

16.09 The main objective of this division is to promote application oriented research in the field of Science & Technology in the State. A provision of Rs.25.20 lakhs is proposed for the year 2009-10 for various activities.

Science & Society Division

16.10 The broad objective of the programmes covered under this is to provide technology-based interventions for optimal utilization of State's resources. A sum of Rs. 21.55 lakhs is proposed for the year 2009-10.

Science Communications and Popularization Division

16.11 The main objective of communication & popularization of science programmes is to generate scientific temper among the masses and make people think scientifically at every stage in their day-to-day- life and make their life easy and simple. This can be achieved by encouraging the spirit of enquiry among younger generation, create awareness about new technologies, foster creativeness and many more methods by organizing carefully drawn programmes. A sum of Rs. 114.00 lakhs is proposed for the year 2009-10.

Remote Sensing Division

16.12 Remote Sensing is an emerging technology, which contemplates collection of spatial, spectral and temporal data of earth's surface using air and spacecraft. It provides a powerful tool for evaluation of Natural Resources (both renewable and non- renewable) with speed accuracy and economy. A provision of Rs.17.00 lakhs is proposed for the year 2009-10.

Entrepreneurship Development Division

16.13 The unemployment of technocrats is one of the burning problems, which have posed a grave threat to the economy of the State. It may lead to a serious problem if not addressed. Developing entrepreneurship amongst graduates can provide highest dividend to society as compared to any other category. To achieve these goals, a sum of Rs.5.75 lakhs is proposed for the year 2009-10.

Environment Development:

16.14 The Environment department was created in 1983 to act as a nodal agency in the state in matters related to preservation of ecological balance, research and studies on environmental matters and prevention and control of soil, water and atmospheric pollution.

16.15 The Environment Department has been creating Environmental awareness through a number of education programmes from primary

level to All India level in co-ordination with Education Department, institutions like Lalit Kala Academy and NGOs.

16.16 An outlay of Rs. 20.00 lakhs is proposed for the year 2009-10 to meet the committed liabilities.

16.17 The Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India has issued a notification on 14th September, 2006 for constitution of State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority in consultation with the State Government. Henceforth, from the date of its constitution the construction of new projects or activities or the expansion or modernization of existing projects or activities listed in Category 'B' of the schedule of the notification entailing capacity addition with change in process and or technology shall be undertaken only after the prior environmental clearance from the State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority. Government of India vide its notification dated 30th July 2008 has constituted State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) to assist the State Level Expert Appraisal Committee (SEAC) which has already been constituted. SEIAA and SEAC have started functioning in the State.

16.18 For processing the cases to be put up before SEIAA and SEAC and to work as its Secretariat an Environment Clearance Cell has been set up. Rs. 14.98 lakhs is proposed for this cell for the year 2009-10.