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technological staff in the research institutions

vii) Ensure suitable environment for scientific and technological research

viii) Creation of scientific awareness among the broad masses of people through popularisation of science and technology.

ix) Establishment of national capability development of indigenous technology an attainment of a national capacity for the assessment, selection, acquisition and adaptation of foreign technology.

x) Creation of centralized facilities for collection and dissemination of scientific information and research findings.

xi) Ensure adequate funds for the STR sector for development of infrastructure for R & D activities and

xii) Ensure bilateral, sub-regional and international scientific and technical co-operation.

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (NCST)

With a view to ensuring that policy formulation in Science and Technology and their application in various sectors of national life to achieve social-economic development objectives proceed in a co-ordinated manner, a National Committee on Science and Technology was constituted in

1983. It was later reconstituted and elevated to the status of a National Council in 1987. The NCST is headed by President and includes the Vice President (Vice-Chairman) Minister of Agriculture, Religions Affairs, Works, Education and Science, & Technology, 4 MPs a number of Secretaries, Vice-Chancellors and eminent scientists. The Science & Technology Division serves as secretariat of this Council. It has an Executive Committee headed by the Vice-President.

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE FOR TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

The most important Committee with operational responsibility is the Consultative Committee for Transfer of Technology headed by the Education Minister. It is charged with—

i) Identification of technological needs and capabilities.

ii) Formulation of an appropriate technology plan

iii) Assessment and recommendation of types of technologies to be imported

iv) Suggest measures for adoption and adaptation of imported technologies.

v) Recommend appropriate legal, fiscal and financial instruments for selection, importation, absorption and adaptation of foreign technologies, and

vi) Such other matters relating to transfer of technology as may be considered relevant by the government.

TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

It may be seen in the preceding paragraphs that transfer of technology is one of the most important objectives of the National Science and Technology Policy. It is, therefore, necessary to understand the characteristics of production technology. Unfortunately technology is commonly perceived to be only the physical means used for production overlooking the importance of related skills, viz. information and management. It is, therefore, necessary to adequately understand the components of technology. The four inter-related components of technology are:

i) Technoware: Object-embodied physical facilities (machines, factories, etc)

ii) Humanware: Person-embodied individual abilities (expertise, creativity, higher level of skill, etc)

iii) Inforware: Document-embodied known facts (theories, designs etc)

iv) Orgaware: Institution-embodied linkage frameworks (management, marketing etc.)

Thus technology should be regarded as a combination of both the physical too and the related knowhow to make or use that tool. Resource transformation takes place when all the four components of technology interact with each other.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE THIRD FIVE YEAR PLAN

The First and Second Five Year Plans did not give much importance to the role science and technology can play in social development.

To be continued