

NIPER to come up in Sector 67

Tribune News Service

CHANDIGARH, Feb 7 - The Punjab Governor, Gen O.P. Malhotra, accompanied by a five-member high-powered site approval committee headed by Dr Manohar Singh Gill, Secretary, Union Ministry of Pharmaceuticals and Petrochemicals, today went round Mohali to select a site for the national institute of pharmaceutical education and research (NIPER).

After visiting several spots, the committee and the Governor finally selected a 130.7 acre piece of land in Sector 67 of Mohali for the location of the prestigious project. The land is being given free of cost by the government for the institute.

Dr Gill told newsmen here today that a sum of Rs 25 crore had been earmarked for the project which might cost over Rs 50 crore. The foundation stone was likely to be laid by the Prime Minister on Baisakhi day while the classes were expected to start from the 1992 academic session. The importance of the project

Sabhabad in the Ham province.

A Reuters report quoted correspondents in Baghdad saying six people were killed in bombing of the Iraqi capital early morning apparently aiming at more bridges across the river Tigris.

An Iraqi Army communique confirmed 33 coalition attacks in the morning and said it had fired a missile overnight at Haifa in Israel-occupied Palestine.

The 700,000 coalition troops, over half a million of them American, were practising more intensively with live ammunition.

A U.S. Marine Flotilla began moving towards Kuwait after beach assault practice in Oman. The marine task force aboard 40 ships has been practising the classic beach assault role on the shores of Oman.

Baghdad claimed that the coalition attack on Baghdad and its surrounding areas on Thursday morning had killed 200 people and had left 100 missing.

An Iraqi official said most of the people killed and injured in the afternoon bombings of the three bridges over the Euphrates were pedestrians.

A group of Western journalists, on a trip organised by the Iraqi Information Ministry, were shown the remains of the bridges 400 km from Baghdad.

NEW DELHI: India and Kuwait today agreed that this country would have an important role to play in the process of post-war reconstruction in the Gulf nation.

This understanding was reached at a meeting Deputy External Affairs Minister Digvijay Singh had with Dr Abdul Rehman Al Awadhi, Special Envoy of the Kuwaiti Emir, who arrived here last night to hand over special message to the President and the Prime Minister.

Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev, who arrived in Delhi today on a three-day official visit for bilateral consultations with Foreign Secretary Mukund Dubey, will also discuss efforts to find a solution to the Gulf crisis.

for a state like Punjab, which was industrially backward, could not be over-emphasised.

Today, the Indian pharmaceutical industry was the largest and most advanced amongst developing countries. This was not so at the time of Independence. In the 50s, production in the country was barely Rs 10 crore that too mainly tablets. Today, it was nearly Rs 4,000 crore, with bulk drugs accounting for about Rs 650 crore. Indian research and entrepreneurship had ensured that most of the bulk drugs were produced in this country. The formulations too were of a high order and extensive variety, equal to any in the world.

Up to the 80s, India was largely dependent on the import of drugs. Today, it was exporting a large volume of bulk drugs and formulations to different parts of the world. The exports, which totalled Rs 857 crore in 1990, were to hard currency areas such as the USA, Germany, Japan, the UK and even Switzerland.

For long, it had been felt that the pharmaceutical industry needed back-up research and educational facilities of the highest order. Hence, the institute would offer Master's courses, doctoral courses and professional and academic studies for post-bachelor pharma courses leading to M. Pharm and M.S. degrees. At a later stage, B. Pharm graduate courses could also be introduced. Research in various disciplines related to the industry was also to form a part of NIPER. Altogether, the institute was expected to have about a dozen departments, concerned with various aspects of study and research, as well as testing and ancillary facilities.

For Punjab, it would be a dream come true. There were not many national institutes and the state was lucky to have one of them for such an institute spawned a wide range of technologies and training and created an environment, leading to the growth of the relevant industry in that state.

Appeal to mass media

Continued from page 1 Col 4

had now resorted to intimidation of editors and journalists through some individuals and organisations in hiding to subjugate the Press for getting their "dictates" and anti-national and extra-constitutional statements and activities, published. The state government had already initiated a package of steps like streamlining the security arrangements, enlisting people's cooperation through self-defence organisations at the grass-root level, tackling unemployment among the youth and fighting corruption at different levels and also provided security to the needy press establishments in specific cases. The government was also categorical in its approach that the Press had to play a vital role in fighting such anti-social elements, whose only aim was violence and whose only medium was frightening the people and the Press.