

Financial Corporations Act 1951 to render financial assistance to the medium and small scale industries. The State Financial Corporations extend financial assistance to the small scale industries units irrespective of whether they are in the urban or rural sector taking into consideration various factors including the viability of the units concerned. The Corporations have noted the need for opening more Branches specially in the under-developed areas.

Discussion with British Minister of Overseas Development

4196 SHRI GIRIDHR GOMANGO
SHRI RAMSHEKHAR PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state

(a) whether the British Minister for Overseas Development who visited India recently had discussion with him, and

(b) if so the outcome of the discussion?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

स्वाधीनता की रजत जयन्ती के अवसर पर देश की प्रगति दर्शाने वाली प्रदर्शनी रेलगाड़ियां

4197. श्री नाथू राम अहिरवार : क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या स्वाधीनता की रजत जयन्ती के अवसर पर प्रस्तावित कार्यक्रम में देश की प्रगति दर्शाने वाली प्रदर्शनी रेलगाड़ियां चलाने की व्यवस्था की गई थी; और

(ख) उन्हें चलाये जाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पन्त : (क) और (ख). एक प्रदर्शनी रेल गाड़ी (विज्ञापन और दृश्य प्रचार निदेश-

शालय द्वारा आयोजित) का प्रस्ताव अधिक व्यय तथा अनेक व्यावहारिक कठिनाइयों को ध्यान में रखते हुये स्वाधीनता की 25वीं-वर्षगाठ के कार्यक्रम को अन्तिम रूप से सम्मिलित नहीं किया गया था। किन्तु विज्ञापन और दृश्य-प्रचार निदेशालय ने देश के 300 स्थानों में एक प्रदर्शनी दिखाने के लिये प्रबन्ध किये हैं। इनमें से 100 का प्रबन्ध किया जा चुका है। इसके अतिरिक्त विज्ञापन और दृश्य-प्रचार निदेशालय के पाम दो रेल डिब्बे हैं जिनमें प्रदर्शनी के लिये वस्तुयें चारों ओर ले जाई व दिखाई जा सकनी हैं।

Setback to Electronics Industry in West Bengal

4198 DR RANEN SIN Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether electronics industry in West Bengal has suffered a tremendous blow for over a decade if so, the reasons therefor

(b) whether Central Government have made any fresh effort to revive this industry in West Bengal and

(c) whether State Government have made any request to the Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K C PANT) (a) to (c) The electronics industry in the country has been developing rapidly. The annual turnover of this industry which was Rs 305 crores in 1964-65 rose to Rs 175 crores in 1970-71. There has been growth in all States including West Bengal. The development of industry in any area depends on a variety of factors like existing infra-structure, special requirements for that particular industry, entrepreneurship and factors that encourage it etc. In electronics the growth in West Bengal has been much less compared to several other States. The Department of Electronics is making serious efforts to achieve a wide

and equitable dispersal of the electronics industry in the country. Officers in the Department of Electronics have been assigned to work with individual States to assist in local planning for the industry in conformity with the overall national plans, and to ensure speedy implementation of proposals received from the States.

Some of the important steps taken for West Bengal are:—

(i) A state level "Development Committee for Electronics" has been set up by the Government of West Bengal consisting of electronics experts from the Government, the private sector and the universities for the formulation of plans for development of electronics in that State;

(ii) in Nov. 1972, an Electronics Industry Seminar was held in Calcutta. In this Seminar industrialists, university scientists, entrepreneurs, officials, both of West Bengal Government and the Central Government, the Chief Minister, Minister of the State and the other State Ministers participated. The Seminar was addressed by the Chairman, Electronics Commission;

(iii) the possibilities of expanding the electronics industry in West Bengal including the setting up of joint ventures and wholly public sector undertakings are being explored; the Department of Electronics is in close touch with the Government of West Bengal;

(iv) with a view to assist the small entrepreneurs in the electronics field and enable them to make an assessment of the quality of the items manufactured by them Central Government is also offering financial assistance upto Rs. 25 lakhs for setting up an electronic testing and developing centre.

Issue of Letter of Intent to West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation for setting up of Cement and Tyre Factory

4199. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether two letters of intent for setting up factories for cement and tyre were issued to the West Bengal Development Corporation; and

(b) if so, their location and capacity and whether they would be in public or private sector?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) (a) and (b). (i) *Cement*.

A letter of intent has been granted to West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation Ltd., on 17th December, 1971 for the setting up of a new cement plant at Jhalda in Purulia District of West Bengal for an annual capacity of 2.0 lakh tonnes for the manufacture of portland cement. The plant would be in the Public Sector.

(ii) *Tyre*:

A letter of intent has been granted to West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation Ltd., on 8th September, 1972 for setting up a new unit at Haldia in West Bengal for manufacture of Automobile tyres and tubes for an annual capacity of Four Lakh Nos. of each. The plant would be in the Public Sector.

Waiver conditions for Grant of Central Assistance to M.P.

4200. SHRI K. KODANDA RAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has waived certain conditions usually attached to the grants of Central Assistance to States in the case of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) if so, on what considerations such a relaxation has been given?