

Durgavati Project

1134. SHRI BRIJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal for starting the Durgavati Project in Patan block of Palamu District of Bihar is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, whether C.C.L. has acquired the land for the said project;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal under consideration of the Government for starting Durgavati Project in Patan block in Palamu district of Bihar.

(b) to (d) Does not arise, in view of reply at (a) above.

[English]

SIDBI's Scheme

1135. SHRI HARIIVANSH SAHAJ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of schemes have been prepared by Small Industries Development Bank of India for setting up rural industries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has reported that it has been implementing four special schemes viz., Rural Industries Programme (RIP), Micro Credit Scheme (MCS), Mahila Vikas Nidhi (MVN) Scheme and Rural Entrepreneurship Development Programme (REDP) in the rural areas of the country, apart from providing assistance to units in small scale industries/tiny sector located in rural and semi-urban areas for their term loan/working capital and seed capital requirements under SIDBI's composite loan scheme (CLS), Single Window Scheme (SWS) and National Equity Fund Scheme (NEF). The salient features of the four special schemes mentioned above are as follows :

(i) The objective of RIP is to promote viable enterprises leading to employment generation in rural areas by identifying and motivating rural entrepreneurs in setting up industrial ventures. RIP aims at better commercial exploitation of local resources. The scheme is currently in operation in 11 States having the largest concentration of rural poor.

(ii) The objective of MCS is to meet perceptible gap in financing genuine credit needs of the

poor in rural areas. Under the Scheme, assistance upto a maximum of Rs. 10,000/- per borrower is extended at concessional rate. At the end of November, 1996, 57 voluntary organisations/non-Governmental organisations have been supported under MCS in 16 States with an aggregate assistance of Rs. 636 lakhs.

(iii) The objective of MVN is to bring about economic empowerment of women especially the rural poor by providing them avenues for training and employment opportunities by facilitating creation of infrastructural facilities. As at the end of November, 1996, 104 non-Governmental organisations have been assisted in 23 States with an aggregate assistance of Rs. 417 lakhs.

(iv) The objective of REDP is to train various target groups in entrepreneurial traits so that they obtain adequate information, motivation and guidance in setting up of their own enterprises. As on November 30, 1996, 269 programmes were conducted in different regions of the country.

[Translation]

Foreign Exchange to MPs

1136. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of foreign exchange presently provided to the Members of Parliament for study tours;

(b) whether the Government propose to enhance this amount to facilitate the MPs to have optimum use of their study-tours;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) A Member of Parliament is entitled to a Study Tour Quota of Rs. 1,00,000/- during his tenure as an MP.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Question does not arise, as there is no proposal under consideration for increasing the Quota.

Welfare of Coal Workers

1137. SHRI SUKH LAL KUSHWAHA :
SHRI BUDHSEN PATEL :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of coal undertaken by coal mines in Madhya Pradesh during 1996-97;