

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRIKAMAL MORARKA): (a) After acquiring suitable land at Jalna from the State Government, preliminary works like fencing, approach road etc. have been completed. The civil construction work for the antenna foundation and the building have started in March & Sept, 90 respectively. Procurement and testing of equipments like antenna and various electronic sub systems through indigenous and foreign sources is in advanced stage.

(b) By mid 1992.

(c) The station will provide capability to monitor technical parameters of emissions from satellites in the visible arc of the Geo Stationary Satellite Orbit over India viz., 20 Deg to 140 Deg. E. This will facilitate the implementation of national and international Radio Regulations governing space radio systems. The measurements by the proposed station will facilitate ensuring interference free operation of Indian satellite and terrestrial radio communication systems.

Setting up of Industries in Bihar under KVI Scheme

1665. SHRI DHARMESH PRASAD VARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a scheme to set up industries in West and East Champaran districts of Bihar and the Khadi and village Industries Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the facilities and incentives proposed to be given to these industries;

(d) whether the Government propose to provide special facilities and incentives to the weaker sections of the society for setting

up industries in these districts; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRIKAMAL MORARKA): (a) There is no specific proposal to formulate a scheme to set up khadi & village industries in West & East Champaran district of Bihar. However, some of the KVI programmes are being implemented in the said district.

(b) The following industries are being implemented in West & East Champaran district:-

1. Pulses and cereals processing industry (PCPI);
2. Village Leather;
3. Gur and Khandsari;
4. Bee-keeping;
5. Village Pottery;
6. Carpentry & Blacksmithy;
7. Cane and Bamboo;
8. Village Oil;
9. Fibre; and
10. Khadi.

(c) KVIC extends escort services such as concessional finance, supply of raw materials, training, marketing and technical infrastructure for the development of khadi and village industries under its purview. Financial assistance is provided as per approved patterns of assistance. Khadi loans are interest free whereas village industries loan carry interest of 4% per annum. Under Interest subsidy scheme of KVIC, the

implementing agencies bear, interest of 4% per annum on both khadi and village industries loan. In the patterns of assistance, grant is provided to some extent if the society consists of 100% women.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(e) Among the important steps taken by KVIC to further increase to benefit KVI programme to the tribal, weaker sections are:-

1. Supply of improved tools and equipments on subsidised basis;
2. Taking of special programme in selected districts of the country where the population of SC/ST is sizeable;
3. Setting of separate allocation of SC/ST in KVIC's overall budget allocation to the States;
4. Ensuring maintenance of separate plan specially suited for benefit of SC/ST communities;
5. KVIC's pattern of assistance for hill border, tribal and weaker sections areas possess a liberal amount of grant compared to other areas. The said liberalised pattern is also applicable to those institutions whose cent per cent members belong to SC/ST and also to those institutions which are exclusively working for the benefit of SC/ST in all other parts of the country.
6. Allowing major institutions to have extra assistance over and above the ceiling limit of Rs. 2.5 crores provided they utilise additional funds specially for the benefit of SC/ST.

News Item Captioned "No pay for Mines Safety Staff"

1666. SHRISAIFUDDINCHOUDHURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned "No pay for Mines Safety Staff" appearing in *The Statesman*, Delhi dated 26 December, 1990;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government to the various points mentioned therein; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to solve the various problems of National Council for Safety in Mines, Dhanbad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN): (a) to (c). The news item under reference has been seen. The National Council for Safety in Mines (NCSM) is a Society, registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. It is not a Central Government Department. The Council has been facing financial difficulties for some years. An expert group set up in the year 1985 had made some recommendations which were considered and the Government favoured winding up the Council. It was felt that the activities for promotion of safety in the organised sector be handled by the management of the mines concerned while the Directorate General of Mines Safety could take up the activities for the unorganised sector in the mines. Several representations have, however, been received by the Government against the winding up of the Council and the matter is under review.

It is true that due to financial constraints, the council has defaulted in making payment of salary to its staff.