

under consideration, one more proposal for collaboration with a Japanese firm for the manufacture of Roller Bearings.

Small Scale Industries

1922. **Shrimati Renuka Ray:** Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to develop and increase the number of small scale industries in the country; and

(b) the recommendations of the Small Scale Industries Board in this regard?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Industry and Supply (Shri Bibudhendra Misra): (a) and (b). The development of small scale industries is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The Central Government, however, plays an important role in planning and co-ordinating programmes of development, in providing technical and marketing services and in providing financial assistance. An advisory Board, namely the Small Scale Industries Board, presided over by the Minister of Industry has been set up for coordinating and planning the development programme. The Small Industries Programme, in a general way, is the result of the implementation of the recommendations of the Small Scale Industries Board.

The Industrial Extension Service of the Central Small Industries Organisation provides technical consultant services to the small entrepreneurs and to State Governments through sixteen Small Industries Service Institutes, one in each State, including Delhi; five Branch Institutes; sixty Extension Centres; three Production Centres and two Training Centres. The main functions of the Industrial Extension Service are (i) Technical Advisory Service; (ii) Workshops and Laboratory Service; Management Consultancy Service; (iii) Managerial and Technical Training Service; (iv)

Economic Service; (v) Information Service and (vi) General Service. The Office of the Development Commissioner Small Scale Industries, has also published model schemes and technical bulletins for the use of intending manufacturers.

The National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. supplies machinery on hire purchase basis and renders commercial and marketing services to small scale units including assistance in securing contracts from the Central Government Stores Purchase Agencies. The management of Prototype Production and Training Centres at Okhla, Rajkot and Howrah are also entrusted to the Corporation.

Small Scale and Medium Scale Industries

1923. **Shrimati Renuka Ray:** Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to give priority to the requirements of the small-scale and medium-scale industries manufacturing essential goods; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Industry and Supply (Shri Bobudhendra Misra): (a) and (b). Policies for the development of small-scale and medium-scale industries are formulated within the framework of the broad priorities allocated to various categories of industries in the Five Year Plans.

Train Collision at Naksalbari Station on N.F. Rly.

1924. **Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the engine driver in the ill-fated Naksalbari accident to 22 Dn passenger was declared dead without being rescued;

(b) whether he was examined by a competent authority?