

(b) There is no change in Government's policy. India has declared many a time that she has no intention of manufacturing nuclear weapons. We have always believed that nuclear energy should be used for peaceful purposes.

While we are aware of developments in nuclear capability in neighbouring countries, we do not visualise a nuclear threat at present. Government continue to hold that the defence of our country can be ensured by adequate military preparedness based on non-nuclear weapons.

#### **Development of Marathawada**

2242. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Aurangabad (Division) Industries Association, Aurangabad (Maharashtra) had sent a letter on 22-4-77 about the problems of industrial development in Marathawada, one of the most backward regions in Maharashtra;

(b) the nature of problems; and

(c) decision of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI BRIJ LAL VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) (i) Establishment of public sector or defence industry in Marathawada in the interest of overall development of the small industries including ancillary industries.

(ii) The Government should make it a condition of the licence issued to large scale industries in backward areas to have all their ancillary development in the same backward area through local entrepreneurs. This condition should also be imposed on the industries that have already been licensed.

(iii) The list of reserved items for SSI units should be increased to cover more items which are manufactured by the small scale units in substantially large quantities.

(iv) The present system of canalising the imports through STC/MMTC for subsequent distribution to the actual user industrial units be stopped and the actual industrial units be given licenses for importing their own requirements.

(v) It is absolutely essential that a steel stockyard be established at a suitable point within this region.

(vi) Central and State Government departments should be directed to purchase all their requirements of consumer items from small scale units without considering even the lower prices that might be offered by the large scale units.

(vii) The working of the Employees State Insurance Corporation requires to be rationalised, as the prevailing system of ESI scheme is not fully beneficial either to the worker or to the employer.

(c) As the points raised in the letter are being examined, Government have not yet taken decision thereon.

#### **Introduction of T.V. in Hyderabad and Vijayawada**

2243. SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration for introduction of Television in Hyderabad and Vijayawada; and

(b) if so, the time by which the T.V. Centres in these two towns are proposed to be set up?