(c) and (d). The proposal is at conceptual stage; hence, the questions of time frame and estimated expediture do not arise

Small and Tiny Sector

3208. SHRI CHITTA BASU: SHRI N. DENNIS: SHRI M. KRISHNASWAMY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have evaluated the contribution made by the small and tiny sector towards the National economy as a whole;
- (b) if so, the findings of such evaluation;
- (c) whether the Government have any proposal to provide a package programme for the enhancement of the role of this sector; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPART-MENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). The Government is continuously monitoring the performance and contribution of the small and tiny sector to National economy. The small scale sector acounts for about 40% of the total industrial output and about 33% by way of direct exports to the country's total exports. In the year 1993-94 production of the small scale sector has been provisionally placed at Rs. 236525 crores at current prices, employment at 139.38 lakh number for 23.84 lakh SSI units.

(c) and (d). The role of small scale sector in the development of economy of India has been fully recognised by the Government. The development of small scale industries has been, therefore, receiving high priority in the programmes of industrial development of the country and increasing the flow of assistance to the sector has been one of the salient features of the policy of the Government.

The Government has taken a number of meaures which include provision of institutional support and a package of incentives and concessions like concessional finance, excise benefits, marketing support through reservation of items for exclusive production, reservation of items for purchase from small scale units, machinery on hire purchase technical consultancy services, testing facilities, common facility services. provision of industrial accommodation and other infrastructural facilities.

The package of incentives and concessions is kept under constant review and modifications are made from time to time, depending on the needs of the situation and objectives in view. A number of steps have been taken subsequent to announcement of policy of liberalisation such as enhancement in the limit of plant and machinery in respect of tiny units from Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 5 lakhs irrespective of the location of the unit, inclusion of business and industry related services as tiny units. Further, the distinction between registered and unregistered units for the purpose of availing of concession under the General Excise Exemption Scheme for SSI Sector has been done away with. The policy measures for promoting and strengthening small, tiny and village enterprises laid in Parliament on 6th August, 1991 are intended to impart more vitality and growth impetus to small scale industries.

However, the primary responsibility for the development of small scale and tiny sector rests with the State Governments. The Central Government only supplements their efforts in this regard. Most of the states/Union Territories have announced their industrial policies with special incentives/facilities in favour of small and tiny sector.

[Translation]

Dependants of Deceased Defence Personnel

3209. SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of dependants of deceased defence personnel whom employment was provided during 1991-92; 1992-93 and 1993-94;

- (b) the number of such cases pending at present and the number of persons likely to be provided employment during 1994-95; and
- (c) the details of other measures being taken by the Government to remove the hardships being faced by the family members of the deceased defence personnel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) A Statement is enclosed.

STATEMENT

Family members of the deceased Defence personnel are entitled for the following benefits:

I. Families of those defence personnel who die in war or war-like operations

(a) Pension & Gratuity:

Families are given liberalised special family pension equal to reckonable emoluments last drawn. Gratuity is given at the specified rates, depending upon the rank and length of service.

(b) Benefits under Army Group Insurance Scheme:

Families are entitled to death benefits at the following rates:

Officers Rs. 3.85 lakhs

JCOs/ORs Rs. 1.65 lakhs