

Schemes for Development of Bhojpur District in Bihar

371. SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes chalked out by the Government for the development of industrially backward district of Bhojpur in Bihar; and

(b) the details of implementation of these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRIKAMAL MORARKA): (a) and (b). Industrialisation of a State is primarily the responsibility of State Government concerned. The Central Government supplement the efforts of the State Government by giving concessions/incentives for entrepreneurs setting up industries in industrially backward districts. Under the scheme of Central Assistance for development of infrastructural facilities in identified growth centres in 'No Industry District', the Central Government have approved the setting up of a Growth Centre at Arrah in District Bhojpur. Out of the Centre's share of assistance of Rs. 2 crores, a sum of Rs. 50 lakhs has been released to the State Government. The balance amount would be released on the basis of progress of implementation of the project.

[English]

Outlay for Public Sector

372. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the outlay fixed for public sector during the Eighth Plan;

(b) whether Govt. have any proposal to

mobilise additional revenue to finance the public sector outlay;

(c) if so, the efforts made in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to improve the performance of public sector undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRIKAMAL MORARKA): (a) The Eighth Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised.

(b) and (c). These will be considered alongwith the finalisation of the Eighth Five Year Plan.

(d) A recent measure undertaken is the concept of Memorandum of Understanding. This has been introduced with a view to making transparent the mutual obligations of the public sector enterprises and the administrative Ministries in achieving improved performance by granting greater autonomy and imposing greater accountability on the Public Sector Enterprises. Other measures like change in product-mix, technological upgradation, improved maintenance management practices, energy conservation, modernisation and rehabilitation, organisational restructuring etc., are also taken by the administrative Ministries/Departments and the Managements of Enterprises under their control.

Small Newspapers in States

373. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names and the number of small and medium newspapers being published in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government are aware