

Alleged discrimination between notified backward areas and other backward areas

4261. SHRI G. NARSIMHA REDDY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be please to state:

(a) whether industries coming up in a few districts notified as backward are entitled for subsidy and other benefits;

(b) if so, is it the intention of Government that industries should not come up in other districts which are equally backward in some cases even more backward;

(c) why this discrimination between one rural backward area and the other; and

(d) what steps Government are taking to rectify this discrimination between one area and the other in our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI ABHA MAITI): (a) to (d). In pursuance of the decisions of the National Development Council Committee of State Chief Ministers, the Planning Commission had set up in 1968, 2 Working Groups to make a careful study of the question of regional imbalances. One of these Groups was to recommend the criteria for Identification of Backward Areas and the other for recommending Fiscal and Financial Incentives for starting industries in Backward Areas. The Working Group on identification of Backward Areas had *inter alia* evolved a set of criteria for identification of Industrially backward States on the basis of which it had identified such States and Union Territories as backward. The Working Group had also recommended another set of criteria for identification of industrially backward districts to qualify for special incentives for promotion of industries.

The reports of these Working Groups were considered by the N.D.C. Committee at its meeting held in September, 1969. It had accepted the recommendation of the Working Group on Identification of Backward Areas relating to the identification of industrially backward States and Union Territories. As regards the criteria for identification of industrially backward districts, the Committee had desired the Planning Commission to settle it in consultation with the financial institutions and the State Governments. In pursuance, a set of criteria for identification of industrially backward districts was evolved in consultation with the financial institutions and forwarded to the States and Union Territories to be adopted as 'guidelines' for sending the proposals about selection of districts along with the statistical data for these districts. On the basis of the proposals of the States and Union Territories for selection of these districts, 246 districts have been selected so far, as industrially backward to qualify for concessional finance facilities from the term lending financial institutions. Out of these, a specified number of districts/areas 6 districts/'areas' from each of the the States identified as industrially backward and 3 districts/'areas' from each of the other States) have been selected to qualify also for the Central Scheme of Investment Subsidy. Accordingly, 101 districts/'areas' have been selected for the purpose.

It is not the intention of Government that industries should not come up in districts which have not been declared as industrially backward for the purpose of concessional finance or investment subsidy. It is however the intention of Government that industries coming up in regions identified as backward in accordance with accepted criteria, should be eligible for fiscal concessions and incentives.

With a view to shifting the focal point of development for small scale and cottage industries from big cities

and State capitals to the rural areas and small towns, District Industries Centres are being set up all over the country to attend to all the requirements of small and village industries under one roof.

Seniority List of Ex-Mysore Agricultural Diploma Holders

4262. SHRI A. R. BADRINARAYAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a final decision has been taken regarding the Inter-State Seniority List of ex-Mysore Agricultural Diploma Holders working as Agricultural Demonstrators;

(b) if so, whether justice has been done to these category of officials in the Inter-State Seniority; and

(c) whether Government will go into this question in depth and avoid this injustice done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. Final decision in this regard was taken and communicated to the State Government on 2nd May, 1978.

(b) The decision was taken in accordance with the accepted principles relating to integration of services consequent on reorganisation of States.

(c) The matter was reconsidered on the basis of certain representations received, and it was found that the decision did not require any revision.

Subsequently, some more representations have been received. These are under examination and will be disposed of in accordance with law.

Generation of power in Bihar

4263. SHRI D. N. TIWARY: Will Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have ascertained the reasons for low generation of electricity in Bihar;

(b) whether less than 50 per cent of the capacity of power plants in Bihar is utilised; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The main reasons for poor performance of Patratu and Barauni Thermal Power Stations in Bihar is the frequent and prolonged forced outages of the thermal generating units installed at these stations.

Re-employment of Officers

4264. SHRI R. MOHANARANGAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the officers who are at present in re-employment by the Central Government.

(b) whether employment of retired Government officers by the private sector is prohibited; and

(c) the grounds on which the Central Government have re-employed them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): (a) and (c). The requisite information is not available in the Department of Personnel and A.R.

(b) No, Sir.

Shortage of cement

4265. SHRI V. M. SUDHEERAN: SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: SHRI ARJUN SINGH BHADORIA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the acute shortage of cement in the