

Government would also consider providing assistance to large existing industries which want to shift from congested metropolitan cities to approved locations in backward areas. Government have since decided that if an industrial undertaking wishes to shift its entire manufacturing activity from forward to backward area within the same State there will be no need to obtain prior permission of the Government of India for such a change of location provided that prior permission of the State Government is obtained by the Industrial undertaking.

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. Approval has already been accorded for setting up of 223 District Industries Centres and every district in the country is likely to be covered under the Scheme by the end of the next year.

The following incentives are given by the Central Government for setting up industries in backward areas:—

(i) Concessional Refinance Scheme of Industrial Development Bank of India.

(ii) Deduction in income-tax.

(iii) Consultancy for Technical Services.

(iv) Registration of new units and expansion of existing units in respect of items which are otherwise banned in the country.

(v) Interest subsidy.

(vi) Supply of machinery on concessional terms by the National Small Industries Corporation Limited.

(vii) Central Investment Subsidy.

(viii) Special facilities for importing raw materials.

(ix) Transport Subsidy.

(b) 204 Industrial Licences have been issued for setting up industrial units in backward areas during 1977 and 1978 (upto October, 1978).

The Central Government reimbursed a sum of Rs. 31.13 crores to the State Governments as subsidy disbursed to the industrial units set up in selected backward areas in which the Scheme of Central Investment Subsidy is in operation.

**Better Tank for the Indian Army**

1452. SHRI RUDOLF RODRIGUES: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps, if any, the Government of India intend to take to meet the pressing need for a better tank for the Indian Army; and

(b) whether an outright purchase-cum-buy back arrangement similar to the Jaguar deal cannot be immediately effected for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM): (a) The Government intends evaluating available contemporary tanks in developed countries, answering the Army's future needs, in addition to developing of an indigenous Main Battle Tank for the late Eighties and Nineties. At this stage, we are considering all possible options so as to ensure that the requirements of national security in this field are fully met.

(b) At the stage at which any tank of foreign make is finally selected, it is intended to follow, as far as practicable, the general approach of outright-purchase and domestic production, coupled with Buy-back arrangements.

**Help given by Public and Private Sector Undertakings to Small Scale Industries**

1453. SHRI NATVERLAL B. PARMAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the small scale industries and ancillary units which