

**Industrialisation of Sunderbans**

2554. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Sunderbans District in West Bengal has been included in the list of backward area in the country ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and whether Government would consider the need for including this District also in the investment subsidy scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA) :  
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Sunderbans District did not qualify for being declared industrially backward when evaluated by the Planning Commission on the basis of data supplied by the State Government along criteria laid down for this purpose.

The Report of the National Committee on the Development of Backward Areas on Industrial Dispersal bearing on revised criteria for declaration of industrially backward districts/areas is under consideration in the Planning Commission in consultation with State Governments, concerned Ministries and financial institutions. Any change in the existing districts/areas would depend on the decision taken on the recommendations of the Committee and order of Government thereon.

**Packing Bags for Cement**

2555. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cement manufacturers are at present using old and mutilated bags for packing of

cement with the result that lot of cement is not only lost and wasted in transit but also these bags are susceptible of being pilfered easily thus creating black-market for this scarce commodity ;

(b) whether the jute mill industry which is presently facing an acute demand recession will be benefited if Government makes it mandatory for the cement manufacturers to use new bags apart from plugging wastage of this construction material which is in short supply; and

(c) the steps which Government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA) : (a) to (c). Under the provisions of the Cement Central Order, 1967, as amended from time to time the Government of India permits the use of serviceable second-hand heavy cement bags for packing of cement. The percentage of use of serviceable Second hand jute bags for packing cement for the quarter commencing 1st July, 1981 is only 20%. With a view to minimising seepage of cement through use of jute bags for packing cement, Cement Research Institute has developed an improved version of such bags with better weaving pattern which is proposed to be adopted for packing cement. With the adoption of the improved version of jute bags by the cement industry seepage is expected to be minimised substantially. Any increase in the use of new bags for packing cement is likely to benefit the jute industry.

**VIP Industrial Centres**

2556. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the write-up captioned 'VIP Industrial Centres' appearing under the heading 'TRADE WINDS'

in the the fortnightly journal 'INDIA TODAY' dated August 1-15, 1981,

(b) if so, whether he proposes to set up any such Centre in West Bengal also particularly in the Sunderbans area, which is the most Backward in the country ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The facts are that the Minister of State for Industry, addressed letters to CMs of all the State Governments on 15th November, 1980 asking them to identify at least two industrially backward areas/districts under the nucleus plant programme for intensive industrialisation of those areas/districts. Out of responses received from 17 State governments, 51 districts/areas have been identified for launching the nucleus plant programme. For these areas, 19 Task Forces have been set up to identify project possibilities for industrialisation, out of which 5 Task Forces have submitted report in respect of Goindwal Sahib in Amritsar district, Chandak in Puri district, Medak in Andhra Pradesh, Kangra, Solan and Sirmur districts in Himachal Pradesh. The recommendations made by the task forces are being processed. The task forces set up or other areas are at work.

(b) and (c). Government of West Bengal have identified two districts, viz, Jalpaiguri and Bankura for which a task force consisting of Central Government and State Government officials has been constituted and is at work. Sunderbans area was not identified by the Government of West Bengal.

### Meeting demand of paper from Indigenous sources

2557. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps been taken to meet the demand of paper from indigenous resources; and

(b) how long it will take to become self-sufficient in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) Government have been encouraging the growth of further capacity in the Paper Industry. Some of the steps taken for increasing the indigenous production of paper are as follows:—

- (i) Promoting the setting up of paper mills based on secondary raw materials which does not involve foreign exchange expenditure has been delicensed.
- (ii) The import of pulp has been liberalised.
- (iii) The import duty on waste paper used for paper making has been waived.
- (iv) Excise rebates have been offered to new large integrated pulp and paper mills, and small paper mills based on the use of unconventional raw materials.

(v) Paper manufactured from a furnish containing not less than 75 % bagasse has been exempted from excise duty.

(b) So far as writing and Printing paper is concerned, the indigenous production is by and large adequate