

finding a solution to the dispute and, if so, what are those ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (c). The question of finding a solution to this matter is still under the consideration of the Government.

Assistance for Development of Backward Regions

2871. SHRI SHANKARRAO SAVANT Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that in several States there are some backward regions such as Telengana in Andhra Pradesh and the Konkan in Maharashtra ;

(b) whether Government are thinking of giving Central help for the development of such regions ;

(c) if so, the nature and extent of this help ; and

(d) if not, how Government propose to gear up development activities in such regions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) :

- (1) The Committee of Chief Ministers appointed by the NDC has evolved a formula for giving Central assistance to State Governments for the implementation of their development programmes which takes into account, among other things, the needs of individual States which have special problems. After the outlay on the development programme of each State is fixed on the basis of the Central assistance to which that State is eligible according to the objective criteria laid down by the Chief Minister's Committee and the resources which the State itself can make available for the purpose, it is for the State Government to decide what should be the outlay for the accelerated development of backward regions within each State. In advising the State Governments about the size

as well as the sectoral distribution of their outlays and at the time of finally approving such outlays, the Planning Commission takes due care to ensure that the maximum possible invest is made for development programmes designed to meet the needs of the backward regions of each State.

- (2) In addition, a special pattern of assistance has been evolved by the Planning Commission for selected backward areas like border districts and hill districts of certain States.
- (3) Further, districts which are in need of special attention in the matter of industrial development have been identified and notified with the co-operation of the State Governments, in pursuance of the recommendations of the Pandey and Wanchoo Committee Reports. Preference is being given to these districts in the matter of location of industrial projects in the public sector provided they are found to be feasible on techno-economic considerations. The Licensing Committee also gives preferential treatment to applications from the backward regions. Ratnagiri and Kolata districts of Konkan region are among the districts notified for the purpose of these benefits.
- (4) Further, concessional finance is being provided for new industries which may be set up in these backward districts, from financial and credit institutions in the public sector. In addition, the Central Government is giving an outright subsidy amounting to 1/10th of the fixed capital investment to new units having a total fixed investment not exceeding Rs. 50 lakhs each, in two selected districts in each of 9 States identified as industrially backward and in one selected district in each of the remaining States and Union Territories. Ratnagiri district in Konkan region has been selected for the purpose.
- (5) The Rural Electrification Corporation which has been set up recently, provides finance on conces-

sional terms to State Electricity Boards for rural electrification programmes in backward areas.

- (6) Special programmes of large magnitude are being implemented for the benefit of the weaker sections of the rural population and for the development of dry and arid areas. Under these programmes 46 Small Farmers Development Agency projects, 41 projects for Sub-marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labour and 24 projects for Farmers in Dry Areas have been launched by the Government of India. An amount of Rs. 100 crores has also been provided for an integrated programme of rural works in 54 chronically drought-affected areas.
- (7) A crash scheme for rural unemployment has also been launched by the Government of India with an initial provision of Rs. 50 crores.
- (8) Surveys of backward districts of Orissa, hill and backward areas of Punjab, primitive tribes of Madhya Pradesh and Basti districts in Uttar Pradesh, have been conducted. A Study Team has carried out a survey of the development programmes of tribal areas. A Central Team has also studied the problems of tribal people in Andhra Pradesh.
- (9) The Planning Commission has offered assistance to States for preparing district plans which will result in identifying the problems of backward regions and thereby help in evolving measures for solving their problems.
- (10) A special assistance of Rs. 45 crores is being provided to the Government of Andhra Pradesh to enable it to spend this amount during the period ending on 31-3-1974 on the special regional development programme of Telengana area in addition to the Plan outlay in that area. A Telengana Development Committee and a Plan Implementation Committee have been constituted to expedite the progress of development programmes in Telengana area including the special

regional development programme of Rs. 45 crores.

(d) Does not arise.

Effect of E.E.C. Exemption on Indian Trade

2872. SHRI NIHAR LASKAR :
SHRI S. M. KRISHNA :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a move among the European Economic market countries to discuss with Independent Asian countries, particularly with India, the problems which E.E.C. extension would bring to them ;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ; and

(c) whether India has been approached by them ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. G. GEORGE) : (a) to (c). In the negotiations between the United Kingdom and the European Economic Community, for the former's entry into the Community the question of relations between the enlarged Community and the Commonwealth countries in Asia and the Far East came to be discussed. It has been agreed by the negotiating sides that in respect of these countries the Community would be prepared to examine with them—after enlargement and taking into account the scope of the Generalised Preference Scheme—such problems as may arise in the trade sector, with a view to finding suitable solutions. In taking this decision we were not consulted. We have pointed out that the Generalised Scheme of Preferences would not take care of many of our trade problems arising out of the enlargement of the Community.

The matter is being pursued through diplomatic channels.

नीमच में केन्द्रीय रिजर्व पुनित्त का सौनात किया जाना

2874. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडे :
क्या गृह मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) नीमच (मध्य प्रदेश) में केन्द्रीय