

Utilisation of Capacity in Industries

4056. SHRI S. A. MURUGANATHAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of industries in the private and public sectors are still working below their capacity;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what further steps have been taken to ensure full utilisation of the existing capacity in these industries?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C SUBRAMANIAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The under-utilisation in some industries has been due to diverse factors which may be external to the firm or industry or internal to it. External factors include lack of demand, power shortage, transport problems, shortage of raw material inputs, unsatisfactory labour management relations. Internal factors may be managerial deficiencies and financial stringency; time taken to build up skills or improve productivity and lack of technological support or a sufficiently diversified production profile.

(c) The factors impinging on low utilisation of capacity are under constant investigation and review and the steps taken include Government's diversification policy which is intended to provide for fuller utilisation of unutilised capacities; steps taken from time to time to improve raw material availabilities particularly steel, and certain liberalisation measures for the fuller utilisation of existing capacity announced in respect of 85 selected industries; and removing of bottlenecks in the full utilisation of capacity in public sector industrial undertakings, for which a special group has been constituted under a Member of the Planning Commission.

3932 L. S.—6

Funds for Small Scale Industries in Punjab during Fourth Plan

4057. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAHBHATIA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated for the development of small-scale industries in Punjab in the Fourth Plan, the amount spent so far and the number of industrial units set up,

(b) whether the Central Government discussed this question with the Government of Punjab; and

(c) if so, the outcome of the discussion?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI):

(Rs. in lakhs)

(a)	(i) Amount allocated for development of Small Scale Industries and establishment of Industrial Estates in Punjab in the Fourth Plan . . .	808.15
	(ii) Anticipated expenditure on development of small scale industries and establishment of industrial estates upto 31-3-73 ¹	407.30
	(iii) No. of industrial units registered with the State Director of Industries as on 31-12-72	30,873 Nos.

(b) Yes, Sir,

(c) Arising out of discussions with the State Government increased allocations for development of small scale industries and industrial estates have been recommended for 1973-74 by the Working Group on Village & Small Industries set up in the Planning Commission