

7. Survey and Collection of statistics and preparation of schemes and Area Development studies.
8. Publicity and Exhibitions, seminars, Study tours of officials and non-officials.
9. Strengthening of staff at H.O. and regional Offices of Directorate of Industries.
10. Development of Semi-Urban "Industrial Growth Centres" (excluding construction of Industrial Estates).
11. Development of Leather Industries.

The Working Group on Village & Small Industries have recommended a provision of Rs. 152.70 lakhs for the development of Small Scale Industries and Industrial Estates.

Kharkhara and Hasdeo Projects in M. P. for the use of Bhilai Steel Project

**6491. Shri N. K. P. Salve:
Shri Nitiraj Singh Chaudhary:**

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Metals** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Kharkhara project was constructed for meeting the needs of the Bhilai Steel Plant;

(b) whether it was entirely financed by his Ministry and outside the State Plan;

(c) whether the Hasdeo Project was also taken up to meet the requirements of Bhilai Steel Plant;

(d) whether the Hasdeo project was completed by State Government or the Central Government and at what cost; and

(e) if the Hasdeo project has been completed by the State Government, why money spent on it is not being reimbursed by Government?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chenna Reddy): (a) Yes. The Project is primarily meant for meeting the water requirements of the Bhilai Steel Plant.

(b) Loan assistance for this Project has been provided by the Central Government in addition to the Central assistance already agreed to for Madhya Pradesh for its plan.

(c) No. Stage I of the Hasdeo Project provides cooling water to the Korba Thermal Station.

(d) Stage I of the Hasdeo Project has been practically completed by the State Government at a cost of about Rs. 9 crores.

(e) Since irrigation and power projects are State Projects, the question of re-imbusement of expenditure does not arise.

Import of Flax

**6492. Shri Nitiraj Singh Chaudhary:
Shri N. K. P. Salve:
Shri Nathu Ram Ahirwar:**

Will the Minister of **Commerce** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that flax, a raw material for fire-fighting hoses, is imported;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the stem of *Alsi* sown widely in India is a raw material for flax; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to process flax in the country?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shafi Qureshi):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.