

the part of Government, the programme of rural Industrial Estates has not made as much progress as desired mainly because of lack of entrepreneurs in rural areas and the inadequacy of infra-structure.

(b) and (c). As regards the Fourth Plan, it is proposed to consolidate the programme in hand rather than establish more Industrial Estates. Much will depend on the financial provision that the State Plans will be able to make, especially for providing infra-structure and incentives.

Small Scale Industries

1850. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of units for the development of small scale industries stated to be established have not reported their production to the authorities even though they are located in the industrial estates; and

(b) if so, the number of such units, their location, the reasons therefor and the remedial measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of units located in industrial estates as have not reported production for the progress report for the period ending 30th September, 1967 is 679. Their location is given in the Annexure laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1525|168.] As regards supplying information there is no legal compulsion. Some of the small units do not also keep regular records.

Managers of industrial estates however, continue to persuade the units to supply the information in time.

Engineering Industries

1851. SHRI VIRENDRAKUMAR SHAH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that of the 151 Engineering Industries in the country, covering about 1,900 units, 54 industries operated at below 60 per cent capacity and only 47 industries could utilise the capacity fully or almost fully during the year 1967;

(b) the extent of idle capacity during the first half of this year; and

(c) whether Government agree with the assessment as reported in the Economic Times of the 19th June, 1968 that the year 1968 may well be another year of stagnation in output and, if so, the specific change in the investment policies proposed to be made and other steps being taken to extricate the industry from the current recession?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Recent output trends are encouraging and they do not bear out the Economic Times assessment. Government keeps the situation under constant review and remedial measures will be taken if and when necessary.

Bokaro Steel Project

1852. SHRI VIRENDRAKUMAR SHAH: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bokaro Steel Project's first stage has already gone over 18 months behind the schedule and that flats from Bokaro are not likely to come to the market before the middle of 1972;