

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3103
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2001
SEPARATE INDUSTRIAL POLICY FOR NORTHERN HILLY STATES
C.P. RADHAKRISHNAN

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware that Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand are also backward and remote as the States of Northern- Eastern parts of the country.
- (b) if so, whether there is separate industrial policy for Northern-Eastern States;
- (c) if so, whether the Government propose to announce a separate industrial policy for Northern Hilly States of Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand on the lines of Northern-Eastern States; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH)

a) & b) The North Eastern Region is one of the least industrially developed regions of the country, the reasons being the relative geographical isolation of the region from the main centres of trade and industry, inadequate physical infrastructure, smallness of the regional market and low accessibility to the market outside the region. In view of the backwardness of the region, a New Industrial Policy was announced on 24.12.1997 to stimulate industrial development of the region.

(c) & (d) Proposals have been received from the State of Jammu & Kashmir and Uttarakhand for a separate industrial policy. No proposal from State of Himachal Pradesh for a separate industrial policy has been received.