

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3651
ANSWERED ON:10.09.2007
CLUSTERS FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
Chakraborty Dr. Sujan

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) has proposed a five-year country strategy for India (2007-2012) with a focus on clusters for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) as reported in the Hindustan Times dated August 6, 2007;
- (b) if so, the salient features of the said proposal and reaction of the Government thereto ;
- (c) the steps initiated by the Government in this regard ;
- (d) the focus areas under the said programme; and
- (e) the names of places identified therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. The Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has received a preliminary draft proposal from the Regional Office of UNIDO in India on "Integrated Programme of Cooperation between the Republic of India and UNIDO 2007-2012". The integrated programme 2007-2012 aims at raising the competitiveness of small and medium enterprises through a combination of interventions at two levels: at firm level, through technology oriented initiatives to increase productivity, quality, energy efficiency, occupational health and safety and the environmental sustainability of industrial production and at the level of individual, efficiency to develop social capital. The programme will also build on India's expertise, technology and know-how to assist other developing countries.

(c)to(e): The Government is yet to take a view on the proposal.