

Conservator of Forests have been authorised to clear proposals involving forest land less than one hectare.

### **Schemes for Industrially Backward States**

6138. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the main criteria for declaring a state industrially backward,

(b) whether Kerala is regarded as an industrially backward state;

(c) whether the Planning Commission is considering any special plan to remove the industrial backwardness of such stated during the Eighth Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) The Pandey Working group, set up by the Planning Commission in 1968, to study the question of regional imbalances, recommended the following criteria to be applied in aggregate, for the purpose of identification of industrially backward States and Union Territories:

- (i) Total per capital income;
- (ii) Per capital income from Industry & Mining;
- (iii) Number of workers engaged in registered factories;
- (iv) Per capital annual consumption of electricity;
- (v) Length of surface roads in relation to-(a) population; and (b) area of the State;

(vi) Railway mileage in relation to-(a) the population; and (b) the area of the State-

Besides, States (Assam, Jammu & Kashmir and Nagaland) identified earlier for Special Central Assistance owing to their special problems and backwardness, were also to be considered for special treatment by way of incentives for promotion of industrial development.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). In order to remove industrial backwardness, a number of fiscal and non-fiscal incentives and concessions have been provided by Central and State governments. The question of promoting a more balanced industrial development will be duly considered while finalising the Eighth Plan. In 1990-91, the Central Investment Subsidy Scheme is being revived for small scale industry located in backward and rural areas.

### **Navodaya Vidyalayas**

6139. SHRIGULAB CHAND KATARIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Navodaya Vidyalayas Scheme was started by Government to create some model schools in different parts of the country so that other schools could emulate their example;

(b) whether the purpose of opening these schools has been fulfilled;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether opening of these schools in large numbers has defeated the very purpose of the original scheme; and

(e) whether Government are satisfied