

have the Government framed in the interest of the farmer? I would like the Hon. Minister to clarify that the consumption of cotton will not fall. We are apprehensive that this will result in reduction of cotton consumption and will adversely affect the interests of the farmers.

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI : I agree that the type of apprehensions expressed by the Hon. Member here just now, though unfounded, do exist in some parts of the country. If the Hon. Member happens to take the trouble of going through the Textile Policy announced in this House, he will come to know that it has been categorically stated therein that cloth requirements of the country are going to increase and per capita consumption of cloth would also go up to such an extent that there would be scope for more production of cotton and apart from cotton, there would be scope for fibre also. Although it is not my department—there is a separate department of Textiles for this and a Competent Minister will be there as incharge of this Department—yet I would like to request the Hon. Member to study the Textile Policy and, I am sure, his apprehension will be belied.

MR. SPEAKER : Both of you may sit together and have consultations because the Textile Policy so far has not been that good.

[English]

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : The new textile policy is not being properly explained. There was a restriction on the proportion of fibre which could be mixed with cotton. Now, that restriction is removed by you.

Policy regarding 'No Industry Districts'

*272. **SHRI D. B. PATIL :**
SHRI MADAN PANDEY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Maharashtra has requested the Union Government for reconsideration of

the policy as regards No Industry Districts and to adopt 'No Industry Tehsil' policy; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Union Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). A Statement is given below.

Statement

Government of Maharashtra have requested the Union Government to change the criterion of 'No-Industry District' to 'No-Industry Taluk'. Government have constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee to review and revise the existing scheme for industrialisation of Backward Areas including 'No-Industry Districts'. The Committee shall, inter-alia, consider the suggestion for adoption of Taluka as a criterion for identification of 'No-Industry'/Backward Areas. The Committee is likely to submit its report by the end of this year.

SHRI D. B. PATIL : Sir, in the reply the Minister has said that the Government have constituted an inter-Ministerial committee to review and revise the existing scheme for industrialisation of Backward Areas including 'No-Industry Districts'.

I would like to know from the Hon. Minister, when has this committee been constituted and till what time, the term is extended?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Sir, an inter-Ministerial committee was constituted to revise the formula for backward areas. It was formed in 1982 and the term of the committee... (Interruptions.) The term of the Committee has been extended up to the end of December, 1986.

SHRI D. B. PATIL : Sir, the Hon. Minister has stated that the committee has been constituted in 1982. I want to know, how many meetings have taken place and what are the reasons for delay in submitting reports.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Sir, sorry, it was not 1982. The first meeting of the committee was held on 28-7-1985. The committee decided to co-opt Chief Secretaries of some other State Governments and it has nominated a sub-committee also to review the progress.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Now, no meetings are held. It means, meetings are banned.

SHRI D. B. PATIL : Sir, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister what measures are being taken to start new industries in 'No-industry districts'.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NARAYAN DATI TIWARI) : Sir, a number of steps have been taken for facilitating industrialisation not only in 'no-industry districts' but also in 'B' and 'C' category districts. The backward areas of the country have been divided into three categories, 'A' category which includes 'No-industry district' and special areas; 'B' category which consists of those areas where capital investment subsidy was already available and 'C' category, a new category has been introduced, of those areas where only banking concessions, institutional financing concessions were available. So, the whole subsidy structure is based on this 3-tier pattern.

Then, again for industrialisation, in 'No-industry district', a growth centre concept has been introduced. IDBI, the Central Government and the State Government will pool their resources together or are expected to pool their resources together to the extent of a maximum of Rs. 6 crores for developing growth centre in the 'no-industry area'. Then again, there are concessions given by banks to 'A', 'B' and 'C' category districts. Also there are some facilities to industrial houses for setting up their industries in backward areas.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN PANDEY : Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state whether

suggestions have been received from some States to declare 'No-industry Blocks'? If so, whether the suggestions have been considered by the Inter-Ministerial Committee; if so, the decision taken thereon?

[English]

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : Sir, the Government of Maharashtra as well as a few other States like Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Gujarat have requested the Central Government to change the criteria of 'no-industry district' to 'no-industry taluk' as the district is not uniform in every State. This matter has been referred to the inter-ministerial committee and they are looking into it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : What I understand from the Hon. Minister is that in "A" Category district which is industrially backward, it is left for industrialisation by the private industrialists and where the infrastructural avenues are available, that is kept for the public sector undertaking. If I understand correctly, will the Government consider to invest or have from public enterprises in the 'A' Category districts also, particularly Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep where no industrial district is there?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : We are not distinguishing between creating infrastructural facilities for private and public sector. As far as Andaman is concerned, I have recently visited with a team of my officers. We are trying to evolve some norms.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a copper project in Jhunjhunu and Sikar areas of Rajasthan. An amount of one crore of rupees is spent annually to run that copper project. The purchases to the tune of one crore of rupees made to run that project are not made in Jhunjhunu, but in other States. Will Jhunjhunu area be declared as backward under these circumstances?

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI :
Sir, full attention will be paid to the wishes expressed by the Hon. Member and all out efforts will be made as far as our schemes in Rajasthan are concerned. Rajasthan Government too will be requested to do their bit in this regard.

Delicensing of Chemical industry

***274. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the details regarding the norms and the policy on delicensing of Chemical industry and broad banding plan to be introduced alongwith the areas; and

(b) whether Government have also given special stress on maintenance of anti-pollution measures and clearance to be obtained from the State Pollution Control Boards ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :
(a) and (b). A Statement is given below.

Statement

Proposals for broad-banding and delicensing of a number of Chemical items have reached the stage of final consideration. These are being formulated on the background of Government's Press Note dated 16th March, 1985 which inter alia stipulates that delicensing is applicable only on the following conditions :

- (a) The industrial undertaking does not fall within the purview of the MRTP Act or the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act,
- (b) The article of manufacture is not reserved for the small scale sector, and
- (c) The undertaking is not located or proposed to be located within the standard Urban limits or within

the municipal limits of a city with a population of more than 5 lakhs.

While drawing up the list for delicensing, it has been kept in view that certain sectors of the chemical industry like power intensive ones, chemicals for which there is difficult availability of raw materials, extremely hazardous chemicals and highly polluting chemicals need not be considered for liberalisation for the time being. In the case of broad-banding, the general criteria such as (i) similarity of chemical composition or manufacturing process, (ii) potential for using either same plant and machinery with minor modifications or with additions of same balancing equipments, and (iii) potential to offer a wider product range to same consumers or industries, has been adopted.

The industries would continue to be subject to the existing orders relating to prevention and control of pollution including inter alia obtaining of clearances/certificates from State Pollution Boards and other similar authorities.

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK : I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether there is any specific law for the periodical health monitoring of the workers within the factory premises and the public in general within a reasonable distance of that industrial unit, if not, whether Government has any proposal to introduce such a specific Act.

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI : The Environment Protection Act is available, and I am sure all these factors will certainly be kept in mind by all industries including chemical industries.

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK : What positive steps the Government is thinking in order to encourage those units which are interested in investment for upgradation and modernisation of these units with regard to chemicals ?

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI : We will give them all possible help.