

Enlargement of Industry Base***917. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:**

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are considering any scheme to enlarge the major industry base in order to provide support to small and ancillary industries and to increase employment potential in the States; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b). The thrust of Government's industrial policy is to enlarge and diversify the industrial base as well as to accelerate industrial growth. Government attaches high priority to the growth and development of small and ancillary units. The linkage between large industrial undertakings and ancillary units is being encouraged. Fiscal and financial incentives are also being provided for the growth of small and ancillary units.

Thermal Power Project at Kanyakumari Tamil Nadu

*918. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up a thermal power station in Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether any survey has been carried out in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c). No proposal in regard to the setting up of a thermal power station in the Kanyakumari district in Tamil Nadu has been received in the Central Electricity Authority.

Promotion of Khadi Gramodyag***919. DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA:**

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to promote khadi gramodyog in 1988-89;

(b) how many persons were benefited by it; and

(c) the achievements made during the year?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) A number of steps were taken to promote Khadi Gramodyog activities during village industries in the existing list of 26 industries; extension of liberalised pattern of assistance to SCs/STs all over the country provided they fall below the poverty line; enhancement of wages of Khadi artisans by 10%; extension of Special Employment Programmes to 8 new districts; Special Sales Campaign including holding of exhibitions, participation in melas, trade fairs etc. to boost the sales of Khadi and V.I. products; gearing up technological upgradation efforts; and exemption from excise duty on polyester fibre for manufactures of 'polyvastra'.

(b) KVIC had tentatively set employment target of 43.50 lakhs persons for 1988-89 against achievement of 41.80 lakh persons in 1987-88.

(c) The total production in the KVI sector was expected to rise to Rs. 1745 crores during 1988-89 against Rs. 1488 crores achieved during 1987-88 registering an increase of 17%.

Haldia Petrochemical Project

*920. DR. SUDHIR ROY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal of Haldia Petrochemical project approved by the IDBL is still awaiting clearance of Finance Ministry;

(b) when is the foreign collaboration due to expire;