

that by suitably linking the Brahma-putra with the Ganga by a canal, a large area can receive irrigation benefits.

#### Steps Taken to Restrict Industrial Activities of Large Industrial Houses

\*442. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA  
GOWDA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state what steps are being taken or have been taken by Government to restrict industrial activities of large industrial houses to protect the interests of small and medium scale industries already in the line?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): It is Government's declared policy to channel the industrial activities of large industrial houses and foreign companies to priority areas as stipulated in Appendix I to the Industrial Policy Statement of February, 1973, copies of which were placed on the Table of the House in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 281 answered on 21st February, 1973. They are ordinarily excluded from other areas except where production is predominantly for the exports. They are also not eligible for industries reserved for production in the public sector or in the small scale sector. At the same time, it is Government's policy to encourage competent small and medium entrepreneurs in all industries, including those open to the larger houses and foreign companies, over which such entrepreneurs will be preferred in the setting up of new capacities. A number of steps have been taken by Government to actively promote the setting up of small and

medium scale industries, including reservation of a large number of industries exclusively for development in the small scale sector and exemption of medium sized undertakings from licensing provisions in respect of substantial expansion/new undertakings/new articles involving fixed assets of up to Rs. 1 crore, subject to certain exceptions. A number of decisions have been recently announced in this connection on the basis of recommendations made by a Committee appointed under the chairmanship of Shri R. S. Bhatt, former Chairman of the Unit Trust of India, to advise on the development of small and medium entrepreneurs.

#### Medium Irrigation Projects in Krishna Basin in Maharashtra

\*443. SHRI ANNASHEB  
GOTKHINDE:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 358 on the 19th March, 1974 regarding clearance of medium irrigation projects in Krishna basin in Maharashtra and state:

(a) the main features of schemes of the modified projects and up-to-date estimates forwarded by the State Government;

(b) whether he had assured the expeditious clearance of those projects, especially of Yeralwadi and Sidde-wadi projects as soon as the Krishna Water Dispute Tribunal's award was available; and

(c) the probable time required to clear the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI K. C. PANT):  
(a) to (c). The following 8 medium