Loans from Banks at Concessional Rate of Interest

*473. SHRI HARI' SHANKER MAH-ALE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to State:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce a new scheme whereunder artisans and village and cottage industries will get loans from the Banks at concessional rate of interest;

(b) whether under the new schemes the Banks will also provide consultancy assistance to small scale units; and

(c) what is the procedure for availing of these facilities and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI H. M. PATEL); (a) The Department of Industrial Development has introduced a Scheme for providing financial assistance, on concessional terms, by way of margin or seed money to State Governments/Union Territories for promotion of employment opportunities in semi-urban and rural areas. Banks have been advised to provide loans and working capital at concessional rates of intrest to the entrepreneurs. Eligible borrowers are credit at 4 per cent also provided under the Differential Rate of Interest scheme.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Under the margin/seed money Scheme, financial assistance is admissible to units, located in villages and towns with population not exceeding 150,000, in which the investment in plant and machinery does not exceed Rs. 1 lakh.

श्री हरीकंकर महलाले: मैं मंत्री महोदय से ज्यानना चाहता हूं कि इस योजना के घन्तगत टुवा में कितने छोटे उखोग करने वाले लोगों को ऋण दिया गया है, झौर महाराष्ट्र म कितने हैं, झौर कितनी धनराशि है? SHRI H. M. PATEL: Sir, I cannot give him the number of persons to whom such loans have been given in the entire country, but I can only tell him that the money provided to the different States has been given and there again, if he wants to know, it is a large...

MR. SPEAKER: He only wanted Maharashtra.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: For Maharashtra I can say that the amount released to Maharashtra was Rs. 40 lakhs in 1977-78 and Maharashtra has asked for Rs. 39.50 lakhs for 1978-79.

भी हरीशंकर महालें : शहरी झौर ग्रामीण विभागों का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Again, it is not possible to say that beacuse the States have really not given this money. In 1977-78, almost nothing has been used. Some States have done a little work and others have not. I am afraid, at this stage, I have no precise information.

बोबरी बलवोर सिंह : सरकार जो रियायरों वैकवर्ड एरियाज के लिये देती है, वह विग हाउसेज वाले ले जाते हैं। हमारे पंजाब में डिस्ट्रिक्ट होशिवारपुर बैकवर्ड एरिया करार दिया गया है, लेकिन वहां जो सरकार से छोटे क्लास के लोगों को रियायतें मिलनी चाहियें, वह विग हाउसेज वाले, थापर, हाकन्स, डी0 सी0 एम0, घोसवाल वगैरा ले गये। 15 परसेंट सबसीडी वहां पर दी गई है, वह सारी की सारी विग हाउसेज वाले ले गये घौर बैकवर्ड एरिया के किसी घादमी को कोई रियायत नहीं मिली है। मैं सरकार से जानना चाहूंवा कि क्या सरकार ऐसा इन्तजान करेगी कि रियायत जिस एरिया और थिन लोगों के लिये मुकर्रर की जाती है, उन्हीं को मिलेगी, विग हाउसेज उससे लाम नहीं उठा सकेंंगे ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: The hon. Member has not understood the scheme correctly. The object of giving special

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assistance in backward areas is to encourage industries to come to backward areas. There is no question of anybody being denied help. If a person belonging to backward areas wants assistance, to him also, if he has a scheme, it will be given because it is desirable in the interest of backward areas.

जौधरी बलबीर सिंह : बिग हाउसेज को नयों रियायतें देंगे ?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Will you please listen to the entire reply and then say if you are satisfied or not? The idea behind the schemes for development of backward areas and giving these concessions is that the industries must be attracted to the backward areas. There is no question of denying anything to any small manufacturer or industrialist who wants to go there. But it also encourages large houses to come. It does not mean that they alone are given assistance. There is no question of denying it at all. There is no ceiling limit. Any one can still go and ask for it.

SHRI DARUR PULLAIAH: Some of Schemes the Central Government intended for rural development, for development of backward areas involve institutional credit. The schemes are LTP, Livestock production nrogramme, Integrated Rural Development Programme, DPAP programmes. But the fact is that the banks are not coming forward to give loans. There is a differentiation between some of the banks. The State Bank is liberal in giving loans whereas the Syndicate Bank, which is a lean Bank in some districts, is not coming forward to give loans. The Minister said that there is no ceiling limit. But the Managers of the Bank tell that there is budgetary allocation and as that has been exhausted, they are not giving loans. They have to wait for the next year. Some of the marginal farmers, who labourers small farmers and applied for loans have not been given.

I would like to know from the hon, Minister whether he is going to give any direction to the Banks that whereever the institutional credit is involved, credit should be made available to them and that no application should be rejected or kept pending. Has he given such instructions? If he has not given such instructions, I would like to know, whether he is going to give them.

MR. SPEAKER: Much outside the question.

SHRI DARUR PULLAIAH: These schemes are not being implemented because banks are not at all giving loans.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: The Banks have been given instructions to give every assistance to industrialists, particularly, the small ones. I would like to say that when they say that banks are not giving loans, I am very much surprised. Here I have got a statement which says that at present there are 4,76,935 accounts of small industries.

SHRI DARUR PULLAIAH: That is not so.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: My dear Sir, there are accounts for the amounts. The accounts show that Rs. 1,702 crores have been lent to small industries and to say that they have not been given is not correct. If my hon. friend has any particular instance of any small industry not being given assistance, I will be very happy to look into it.

Permission to British Airways to Overfly Concorde

*474. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : DR. BIJOY MONDAL

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND

CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state: