

[11 May, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) Yes Sir. There is at present a proposal to open a Passport Collection Centre at Gulbarga.

(d) A decision has been taken to open Passport Collection Centre at Gulbarga. The Karnataka Govt. have agreed to provide suitable accommodation for housing the Collection Centre. The State Government have been requested to depute some staff for the Centre. The Collection Centre will start functioning as soon as arrangements are in place.

New Project for Space Research

* 653. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ISRO have initiated any new Project for space research with longer range Satellite Launching Vehicles;

(b) if so, whether any new technology has been obtained from foreign countries; and

(c) the period fixed for the completion of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (c) As part of the approved Ninth Plan Programme, studies are in progress for carrying out different types of missions using Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV)/Geo-synchronous Launch Vehicle (GSLV) and increasing the payload capability of our launch vehicles to about 4 tonnes. These studies are under conceptual phase. Typically realisation of such programmes, once started, may take upto 10 years.

(b) No, Sir.

Production percentage of small scale industries

†*654. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment with regard to percentage of production of small scale industries in industrial production of the country;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the assessment made with regard to contribution in terms of percentage of average annual production made by small scale industries in total industrial production during last year;

(c) whether Government have ascertained the possibility of increasing this percentage; and

(d) if so, the facts in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The share of SSI production in total industrial production was 39.07% in 1998-99.

(c) and (d) The SSI Sector has been continuously growing. In order to ensure its sustained growth in the future, Government has taken several steps which will ensure the increase of production in the SSI sector. Credit is one of the prime inputs for production. To improve the flow of credit, Government has raised the limit of composite loans under single window scheme from Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 10 lakhs, the limit of loans without collaterals from Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 5 lakh and have announced the launching of the Credit Guarantee Scheme. 391 specialized bank branches have been set up. In order to enhance productivity, Government has strengthened the technology upgradation programme and facilities available through Tool Rooms, Product-cum-Process Development Centres, Regional Testing Centres, financial assistance for acquiring ISO-9000 certification etc. The operation of the Technology Development Modernization Scheme has been extended for another three years. In addition, Government has been helping the States in their endeavour of small scale industrial development by implementing various schemes such as Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana, Integrated Infrastructure Development, Computerization of District Industry Centres, facilities for entrepreneurship development etc.

Number of SSI Units

†*655. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:
DR. D. MASTHAN:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.