

etc. to accord priority to bestow the benefits to the SSI industry like the border districts of Jammu and Kashmir ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : No, Sir. The schemes meant for the promotion of Small Scale Industries are applicable all over the country and are not area specific.

Hiring of American Satellite by Andhra Pradesh Government

3062. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh has been permitted to hire an American satellite to check on illegal activities ; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to ensure that national secrets of strategic importance are not pictured by that satellite ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) No, Sir. Government of Andhra Pradesh have informed that they have not hired any American Satellite for any purpose. However, Government of Andhra Pradesh have planned for obtaining high-resolution images from a commercial American satellite to support hazard mitigation studies.

(b) Recognizing that imaging by any satellite cannot be controlled, the government has a policy for regulating remote sensing data in the country to protect national interests.

Interest accrued on Funds provided under MPLADS

†3063. SHRI SATISH CHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the interest accrued on the grants provided under the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme is also used for the development plan ;

(b) if so, the State-wise total amount of such interest with Government till date and the manner in which such amount was spent ;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether any review with regard to the implementation of such schemes has been made ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS. (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE) : (a) and (b) The interest accrued on the MPLADS funds deposited with the nationalised Banks may be used at the recommendation of the MP concerned for the same purpose for which the basic amount has been allocated. The details of interest accrued on the MPLADS funds are available with the respective District Collectors.

(c) to (e) Implementation of the scheme was reviewed by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, whose report for the year ending March 1997 (Report No. 3 of 1998, Union Government-Civil) was laid on the table of the Parliament on 11-6-98.

A new evaluation study of the MPLADS has been entrusted to the Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission.