

[3rd August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

of Small Industries of India (FASII) vide their representation dated the 10th July, 2000 emphasised the need for continuation of the present Reservation Policy for the small scale industries (SSI) in the country. In addition, it also outlined several policy measures to strengthen this sector. Some of the important suggestions in this context are—the introduction of the Credit Guarantee Scheme for loans given to SSI units, the strengthening of the State Financial Corporations, the enhancement of the excise exemption limit to Rs. 1 crore, the creation of Technology Modernisation Fund for the SSI sector, the enactment of a separate Act for the growth and development of SSI sector and extending of greater marketing support to the SSI sector by the Government.

A new policy package is under the consideration of the Government.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Revamping of FCI

***172. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:**

SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to massively revamp operations of Food Corporation of India in order to make it more efficient; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) and (b) A review of the operations of the Food Corporation of India is undertaken by the Board of Directors/Government of India from time to time. This includes review of procurement operations, economic cost and administrative structure, storage and transit losses, with a view to reducing the subsidy burden on the Government and rationalisation of price structure of food grains for the consumers.

Implementation of programmes in KBK Districts in Orissa

***173. SHRI ANANTA SETHI:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have, recently, made a review on the implementation of various programmes in the KBK districts in Orissa;