

Incentives to the Manufacturers of the Indian Mark II Handpumps

1640. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:

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Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state whether Central/State Government Agencies are giving financial/technical assistance, incentives, subsidies, marketing support, etc. to the manufacturers and beneficiaries for installation of The Indian Mark II Handpumps in villages, for rural and remote areas for clean drinking water; if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): Details of technical/financial assistance, incentives, subsidies, marketing support etc. given to the manufacturers of India Mark II handpumps in the small scale sector are as under:—

Technical guidance

Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has published ISI 9301—1990 deep well handpumps—Specifications. This handpump is popularly known as India Mark II handpump. This standard provides complete design for the handpump which gives technical guidance to manufacturers. Technical assistance is also provided by inspection agencies and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) from time to time. Bureau of Indian Standards also operates a certification scheme which allows the use of ISI mark on a pump by a manufacturer who has been granted a licence to apply the mark after he satisfies the requirements for granting of licence on a continuing basis. This scheme, in its operation, provides technical assistance to the manufacturers holding the ISI licence. As a part of National Drinking Water Mission, BIS has held training programme for manufacturers to update their technical knowledge on quality assurance of the handpumps.

Financial Assistance—Incentives and Subsidies

Government have taken a number of measures to promote small scale indus-

tries taking up manufacture of various products including India Mark II handpumps in the country. These measures include provision of institutional support and a package of incentives and concessions like concessional finance, excise benefits, marketing support through reservation of items for exclusive production, reservation of items for purchase from small scale units, machinery on hire purchase, technical consultancy services, testing facilities, common facility services, provision of industrial accommodation and other infrastructural facilities.

For holding ISI certification under the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 1986, the manufacturers are required to pay some annual marking fees. Small scale manufactures of the handpumps are given a concession of 30 per cent in this marking fee.

General subsidy is granted by State Governments to manufacturers for purchase of testing equipment to obtain ISI licence.

Handpump is reserved for Government purchase from small scale sector but there is no separate scheme of marketing support for this pump. The marketing support is being provided under the Government's purchase and Price Preference Policy and such marketing support is equally applicable on all Government purchases. Marketing support of the Government includes issuance of tender sets free of cost, exemption from payment of earnest money, waiver of security deposit and price preference upto 15 per cent over the quotation of the large scale units. These facilities are applicable to the small scale units registered with the National Small Industries Corporation under the Single Point Registration Scheme. Marketing support is provided by UNICEF through its purchase of handpumps for other country programmes. UNICEF purchases these pumps for export from the list of BIS licensed handpumps manufacturers.

No financial assistance is given to the beneficiaries. However, ISI mark ensures quality of the handpumps to the beneficiaries.