

Salt factory at Kanthi

1857. SHRI ARABINDA GHOSH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the action Government contemplate to vacate the injunction on the salt factory at Kanthi in West Bengal which is a joint venture of the Government of West Bengal and the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH): Presumably the reference is to the matter relating to setting up of a salt factory by M/s. Hindustan Salts Limited at Contai Sea Board in West Bengal, which is under examination.

Facilities to small scale and cottage industries

1858. DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of industries which are covered under the Integrated Development Plan;

(b) what facilities are given to small scale and cottage industries; and

(c) whether special credit facilities are given, if so, by which agencies alongwith the rate of interest or other incentives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH): (a) Any activity with an investment of upto Rs. 10,000 that can be started in rural areas is covered under the Integrated Rural Development Programme.

(b) Small scale and cottage industries are eligible for a variety of facilities including training, credit, raw material and marketing. The District Industries Centres aim at providing all services and support to the decentralised sector under a single roof.

(c) Under the composite loan scheme sponsored by the Reserve Bank of India credit upto Rs. 25,000 both for fixed and/or working capital is available without insistence on collateral security or margin. Under the Differential Interest Rates Scheme, families with an annual income of upto Rs. 2400 are eligible for credit from Banks at a very low rate of interest. The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development would also provide, by way of refinance loans and advances to artisans and small scale industries including village and cottage industries and industrial units in the tiny and decentralised sector.

Industries for rural sectors

1859. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the industries which have been identified and reserved for rural sector; and

(b) what progress has been made by the industries in the above sector during the years 1980-81 and 1981-82?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Under the District Industries Centres Programme, emphasis is laid on the development of small, tiny, village and cottage industries and their dispersal to rural areas and small towns. The percentage share of industrial units established in the rural areas to the total industrial units established under the DIC programme was 74.1 in 1980-81 and 78.1 in 1981-82. Besides, under the Khadi & Village Industries Commission Act, 1956 (61 of 1956), 25 village industries have been specified in the schedule to the Act for development by the Khadi & Village Industries Commission, as per list attached.