

are kept in view while taking decisions on industrial licence applications. Every effort is being made to dispose of the pending applications as expeditiously as possible.

**Reimbursement of Central Subsidy to Kerala State**

214. SHRIMATI LEELA DAMODARA MENON : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kerala Government have requested the Central Government for reimbursement of subsidy given to the industrial units in backward districts of the State under the Scheme for Central Subsidy to Industrial units in selected backward districts;

(b) if so, what is the total amount disbursed by the Kerala Government since 1973 and the amount so far reimbursed to the State Government by the Central Government;

(c) whether any delay has taken place in making the reimbursement; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI T. A. PAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total amount disbursed by the State Government is Rs. 90.30 lakhs. The amount so far reimbursed to the State Government by the Central Government is Rs. 62.47 lakhs.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

215. [Transferred to 20th August 1976]

**Special competitive examination for IAS**

- 216. SHRI SYED AHMAD HASHMI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 602 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th May, 1976 and state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on holding a special competitive examination for the Central Government employees who have not crossed the age of forty years for entry into the Indian Administrative Service; and

(b) if so, what are the (details thereof and by when the examination is likely to be held ?

I THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS (SHRI OM MEHTA): (a) and (b) The Government is still examining the proposal of lateral entry into the Indian Administrative Service of certain categories of Central and the State Governments' employees.

**National agency for the industrial development of backward areas**

217. SHRI GOVINDRAO RAMCHANDRA MHAISEKAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a National agency for the industrial development of backward areas known as the Authority for Backward Area Development; and

(b) if so, what will be its functions ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI T. A. PAD) : (a) The setting up of a Central agency for the industrial development of backward areas is under the serious consideration of the Government.

(b) Its functions as described by the Minister of Industry and Civil Supplies during the discussions in the last Budget Session are given in the enclosed statement.

**Statement**

*Authority for Backward Area Development*

Authority of Backward Area Development will not undertake any financing which the reorganised IDBI is competent to do. It will partly finance infra-structure development outside the industrial estates/areas since IDBI does not finance such infra-structural development. It will assist in the preparation of feasibility reports of pro-pulsive industries based on local resources in backward areas. It will disseminate information to investors of the facilities and incentives available for industrial development in backward areas. It will keep a panel of skilled persons who could be deputed on short terms assignments to backward State. It could also administer, as an agent of the Ministry of Industry and Civil Supplies the capital subsidies schemes. It would keep itself in close touch with the State Governments to watch the progress of the State Governments schem-

es for incentives and subsidies and concessional finance schemes of financial institutions. It could closely liaise with HUDCO for construction of industrial houses in growth centres in backward areas. U could provide technical assistance and training facilities to staff in backward States where the existing schemes of the Government of India have not had any appreciable inroad.

**Prospects of satellite launching by India from her own base**

218. SHRI GIAN CHAND TOTU : SHRI GANESH LAL MALI : SHRI SYED NIZAM-UD-DIN :

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the prospects of India's launching a satellite from a base in this country with foreign collaboration, in the immediate future; and

(b) whether any survey has been conducted for such a base; and

(c) what other preparatory work has been done in this regard ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) There is no proposal to launch a satellite from a base in this country with foreign collaboration.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Setting up of District Planning Boards**

219. SHRI GIAN CHAND TOTU : SHRI GANESH LAL MALI : SHRI SYED NIZAM-UD-DIN :

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up district planning boards in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SANKAR GHOSE) : (a) and (b) In the light of the recommendations of the Administrative Reforms Commission, the Planning Commission had recommended the setting up of both State Planning Boards and District Planning/Development agencies to the State Governments. According to available information almost all the State Governments have set up apex planning bodies at the State level. District, regional or block level development agencies have also been organised by many of the State Governments.

**Production of Burn & Co.**

220. DR. RAJAT KUMAR CHAKRABARTI : SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURGOHAIN : SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN CHOUDHARY : SHRI KRISHNA BAHADUR CHETTRI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total production of Burn & Co., Howrah in terms of tonnage and value during the year 1975-76; and

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for diversification of production of the said Company; if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI T. A. PAI) : (a) Total production at Burn, Howrah in value terms, during the year 1975-76, is of the order of Rs. 950.02 lakhs. The break up in terms of value and quantity is as follows :

Item	Quantity	Value in Rs. Lakhs
(i) Wagons	1047.5 FWUs	357.76
(ii) Saleable castings	2604.94 tonnes	143.64
(iii) Saleable structurals	5762.25 tonnes	172.08
(iv) Cranes	3 Numbers	8.67
(v) Sluice valve	784 Numbers	.90
(vi) Saleable forgings	59.73 tonnes	3.89
(vii) Mechanical	—	87.81
(viii) Points and Crossings	1463.75 sets	161.47
<b>TOTAL</b>	—	<b>950.02</b>