

selected backward districts/areas. The concession provided by these institutions generally include :

- (i) Lower interest rate of 7%. The IDBI has lowered its rate of interest for refinance from 4½% to 3½% if State Financial Corporations/Banks advance loans in backward areas at the rate of 7%.
- (ii) Extension of the period for repayment of the first instalment of the principal amount of the loan from the present 3 years to 5 years;
- (iii) Longer period for repayment of the loans i.e. 15 to 20 years, as against 10 to 12 years normally stipulated;
- (iv) 50% reduction in normal service charges ; and
- (v) in the case of the TFCI and IOICI, the margin of security reduced to 30-35 percent from 50%.

The Government of India have also announced two central subsidy schemes viz. 10% Subsidy Scheme and Transport Subsidy Scheme for the industries in the selected backward areas. Besides, the respective State Government /Union Territory Administrations are also granting various packages of concessions/incentives to attract investment in the backward areas.

PRODUCTION OF CEMENT IN THE COUNTRY

1052. SHRI BANARSI DAS :
SHRI S. D. MISRA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) production of cement in the country, yearwise, since 1970 to date ; and

(b) the price of cement, as fixed by Government, yearwise, since 1970 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) :

(a) Production figures in respect of cement for the years 1970, 1971 and 1972 are as under :

1970	...	13.96 million tonnes
1971	...	14.93 do.
1972	...	7.92 do.
(Jan-June 72)		

(b) Under the Cement Control Order 1967, the Govt. of India fix the F.O.R.- destination price payable all over India at any rail head. The F.O.R. prices fixed since 1970 onwards are as follows :—

With effect from	F.O.R. destination price per M. T. (in rupees)
4-4-70	131.13
24-10-70	134.33
7-7-71	136.83
21-4-72	139.00

The above increases in the f. o. r. destination price were given from time to time mainly to provide for the increase in the freight rates announced in the annual budget of the Government.

The maximum wholesale or retail price at which cement is to be sold by a dealer is fixed by the State Government.

SREEHARIKOTA 'ROCKET RANGE STATION'

1053. SHRI JANARDHANA REDDY : Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any slackness in the work of 'Sreeharikota Rocket Range' Station at Sreeharikota, Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor ;

(c) how many persons were employed there for unskilled jobs ; and

(d) how many of them are local people ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Forty-seven persons are employed in unskilled jobs such as helpers, peons, watchmen, malis and sweepers.

(d) Of these thirty-two are from Nellore District in Andhra Pradesh.

EXISTENCE OF FOREIGN AGENT

PROVOCATEURS IN THE COUNTRY

1054. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Union Government has been drawn to a news-item