

agro-industries is contemplated during the Fourth Five Year Plan period. A comprehensive list of agro-industries has been prepared and the Small scale Industries Organisation, State Directorate of Industries have been requested to accord a high priority to the development of agro-industries.

(vii) *Conducting of district intensive campaigns*

Intensive campaigns are organised in districts for promoting small industries by providing on the spot guidance and technical assistance to the prospective and existing entrepreneurs in those areas.

(viii) *Rural industries projects programme*

49 rural industries projects have been set up under this programme covering nearly 250 community Development blocks. The object of this programme is to enlarge employment opportunities, diversification of rural occupation, raising income and standard of living of rural communities as also to reduce exodus to urban centres. Two such centres are located in the districts of Midnapore and Darjeeling in West Bengal.

(ix) *Small artisans programme*

Efforts have also been made to resuscitate and develop rural arts and crafts by upgrading the skills of the rural artisans like carpentry, blacksmithy, potters; etc.

For the development of small scale industries during the Fourth Plan, total outlay of Rs. 104.25 crores—Rs. 37.65 crores in the centre and Rs. 66.60 crores in the States and the Union Territories has been made. This is in addition to the provision of Rs. 19.08 crores made for the industrial estates, Rs. 4.5 crores for rural industries projects and Rs. 5 crores for outright grant/subsidy in selected backward areas for location of small and medium industries.

As scheme to provide financial assistance to technicians and engineers as well as other technically qualified engineers for setting up small scale industries has been drawn up and circulated to all State Governments as a model scheme, to be included by them in the State Sector. The scheme which envisages the grant

of financial assistance amounting to Rs. 6 lakhs (in the case of ancillary industries, it is up to Rs. 8 lakhs) provides for the State participation up to 40% of the investment on land, building and machinery and another 55% as loan while the balance of 5% is required to be raised by the engineer/technician entrepreneur himself. In the matter of working capital also, 90% of it could be provided to the engineer entrepreneur by public sector financial institutions. One of the ideas behind this scheme was to reduce unemployment among technical educated un-employed people.

MACHINE TOOL INDUSTRY

*162. SHRI D. D. PURI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the present position of the machine tool industry in the country with only 50 per cent of its capacity utilised ;

(b) whether Government are also aware that import of machine tools continues to be high in spite of the export drive of the industry particularly during the recession period ;

(c) if so, what specific steps Government have taken or propose to take to help the industry to work to its full capacity ; and

(d) what action is being taken to expand the home market and also to boost the exports ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The present installed capacity in the machine tool industry is estimated to be Rs. 70 crores. Out of this the capacity for Rs. 20 crores cannot achieve immediate production due to long gestation period. The available capacity for immediate production is about Rs. 50 crores and the production of machine tools during the calendar year 1970 was Rs. 36.5 crores, The unutilised capacity is therefore of the order of about 27% of the practical available capacity.

(b) Import is allowed only of such of the machine tools as are not currently being manufactured in the country. Imports of machine tools have come down from Rs. 33.65 crores 1968 to Rs. 19 crores in 1969 and about Rs. 20 crores in 1970.

Exports of machine tools have risen substantially during the period 1965 to 1971 as indicated below :

Year		Rs./lakhs
1965-66	...	56.07
1966-67	...	66.13
1967-68	...	68.37
1968-69	...	188.11
1969-70	...	295.70
1970-71	...	241.57

(up to Jan. '71)

(c) and (d), (i) Wherever gaps in production exist, diversification programme of the existing machine tool manufacturers is encouraged by Government

(ii) Import replenishment is allowed for imported raw materials, components etc. used in the production of machine tools. Present rate of replenishment is 20% of the FOB value of the product.

(iii) In order to compensate for the losses sustained by exporters in selling at competitive prices, cash assistance at the rate of 20% of FOB value of exports is given.

(iv) Indigenous iron and steel going into the manufacture of machine tools for export is released on special concessional prices.

(v) Draw back of import and excise duty is allowed on the exported items.

(vi) As a part of the export promotion drive, Government have extended financial assistance from the Market Development Fund to the Machine Tool Industry. The activities being undertaken include Market Surveys and Market Orientation tours abroad, participation in trade fairs & exhibitions abroad, publication of brochures etc. in overseas countries and dissemination of statistical and other information among the exporters.

Consequent on the steps taken by the Government as detailed above, it is estimated

that the production in the coming years will rise resulting in fuller utilisation of the installed capacity.

विदिशा में रेल ओवर-ब्रिज

*163. श्री निरंजन वर्मा : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या उनके मंत्रालय ने विदिशा (झांसी डिवीजन) रेलवे स्टेशन पर रेलवे ओवर ब्रिज बनाने और पर्याप्त फैन्सिंग की व्यवस्था करने के प्रश्न की जांच कर ली है ?

†[RAIL OVER-BRIDGE AT VIDISHA]

*163. SHRI NIRANJAN VARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether the Ministry of Railways have gone into the question of providing a rail over-bridge at Vidisha (Jhansi Division) Railway Station and also for providing adequate fencing there ?]

रेल मंत्री (श्री के० हनुमन्तैया) : जी हां। लेकिन, राज्य सरकार ने अभी ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव प्रायोजित नहीं किया है। राज्य सरकार द्वारा प्रस्ताव प्रायोजित किये जाने के बाद ही रेलवे आगे कार्रवाही कर सकती है।

विदिशा स्टेशन पर बाड़ की पर्याप्त व्यवस्था है।

†[THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : Yes, Sir. The State Government, however, has not yet sponsored any such proposal. Further action can be taken by the Railway, after the proposal is sponsored by the State Government.

Vidisha station is provided with adequate fencing.]

EXPORTS BY HMT

*164. SHRI B. S. SAVNEKAR :
SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :
SHRI T. G. DESHMUKH :
SHRI N. P. CHAUDHARI :
SHRI S. B. BOBDEY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE

† [] English translation.