

Capital investment in SSIs

†3705. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government contemplate to increase the ceiling of the capital investment in small scale industries; and

(b) if so, what is the present ceiling and to what extent it is proposed to be increased?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to enhance the present investment ceiling for small scale industries (SSI) of Rs. 1.00 crore in plant and machinery. However, based on consultations with stakeholders, the investment ceiling has been enhanced to Rs. 5.00 crores in respect of 41 items pertaining to hand tools and hosiery with effect from 9th October, 2001. In addition the draft notification in respect of enhancement of investment ceiling to Rs. 5.00 crores in respect of 10 products in the drugs and pharmaceuticals sector and 13 products in stationery sector has been laid on the Table of the House in July, 2002.

Growth rate of SSIs

3706. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the growth rate of SSI sector is far better than the industrial growth rate during the last five years;

(b) if so, the ratio of growth rate of the SSI sector and the industrial sector, during the last five years, year-wise; and

(c) what steps his Ministry is taking or propose to take to improve the growth rate of SSI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The ratio of growth rate of the SSI sector and the industrial sector, during the last five years is given below:—

†Originai notice of the question was received in Hindi.