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Industrial estates in Tier-II cities

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Exclusively for micro enterprises, says Minister

Six industrial estates proposed to be upgraded

Two upgradation projects to be finished by September

CHENNAI: The government will take preliminary steps for establishing industrial estates in Tier-II cities exclusively for micro enterprises, Pongalur N. Palanisamy, Minister for Rural Industries and Animal Husbandry, told the Assembly on Tuesday.

Concluding a debate on the demands for grants for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Department, Mr. Palanisamy said the State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu (SIPCOT) would set up the proposed estates in Madurai, Coimabtoe, Salem, Tiruchi and Tirunelveli.

This year, action would be initiated, through the Small Industries Development Corporation (SIDCO), for forming eight estates in Nannilam taluk (Tiruvarur district), Oddanchatram and

Vadamadurai (Dindigul), Nerur Vadapaham (Karur), Sadayapalayam (Tirupur), Sengarai (Tiruvallur), Virudhunagar and 'A' Sathanur (Villupuram).

Six industrial estates at Tiruverumbur, Mettur, Sivaganga (Phase-I), Karaikudi (Phase-I), Marthandam and Gummidipoondi were proposed to be upgraded under the Cluster Development Programme this year at a total cost of Rs. 7.64 crore. Two upgradation projects, one covering the Guindy industrial estate at a cost of Rs. 27.9 crore and another for Ambattur, Thirumudivakkam and Thirumazhisai (Rs. 61.1 crore) estates, were expected to be completed by September.

The Minister also announced that plastics and rubber industries and food processing would also be covered under the scheme of special capital subsidy for thrust sector. The subsidy quantum would be 15 per cent on eligible plant and machinery, subject to a maximum of Rs. 30 lakh.

During 2008-2009, the Tamil Nadu Small Industries Corporation Limited (TANSI) recorded an operating profit of about Rs. 31.56 crore. The target for the current year was fixed as Rs. 47.24 crore, the Minister informed the House.