

E d i t o r i a l

If we mean what we say, we should act to achieve self-sufficiency and cut down import on account of progress in industry. Incentives, assistances should be provided to scientists, engineers, technicians, inventors and entrepreneurs. A tiny generator which can be held in one's palm to supply the electricity needs of a single family, an anticollision device for speeding cars in the street, an automatic machine for cancelling stamps on letters and packets, an effective substitute for scarce chromium for its important applications and an improved superdrafting system for textile yarn—these maynot have much in common. But all of them certainly have one thing in common; viz. inventivity which only makes them possible. A developing country like ours needs, for the growth of its economy and for raising the peoples' living standards, new inventions and new improved processes and techniques, which either reduce time, cost and space or substitute materials, equipments, etc. and save foreign exchange.

There is no dearth of brain to promote inventions but the brain or talent often remains dormant and in cases where it manifests itself vigorously, many inventors suffer from lack of, mostly financial and occasionally technical facilities, required to give practical shape to their ideas.

The Inventions Promotion Board, which is a Govt. sponsored body to promote inventivity and foster useful inventions, provides such assistance to any one who has a promising idea with potentialities for its commercial exploitation. It grants either financial assistance or provides laboratory, fabrication or testing facilities as are needed. The Board grants financial, technical assistance after assessing the technical feasibility and the commercial viability or import substitution value of the invention.

Any individual inventor, scientist, technologist, engineer, technician or worker in any industrial unit is eligible for such assistance. It is hoped that the opportunities offered by the Inventions Promotion Board will be availed of, for the growth of inventions and there by that of industry.