

Stoppage of power generation by atomic power plants

2084. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that atomic power plants in the country stopped generating power during the last three years;

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

(c) what is the estimated amount of loss suffered as a result of frequent failures of power plants during the same period and what steps are being taken to prevent such failures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATES IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) with the exception of Unit-I of Rajasthan Atomic Power Station which has been shut down due to the end-shield problem, all other nuclear units have been performing satisfactorily. Total generation, from nuclear units was about 13,700 million units over the last three years against a target of 14,400 million units.

Basis of valuation of land for wealth tax

2085. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quantum of the expected payable amount on the acquisition of the vacant land covered under the provisions of the Urban Land (C&R) Act would form the basis of the valuation of such land for the purpose of Section 16A of Wealth Tax Act 1957 particularly during the period commencing on the enforcement of and till the completion of proceed-

ings under Section 10 of the Land Ceiling Act; and

(b) if so, what would be the other basis of valuation of such land during such period and if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) There is no separate method for valuation under Wealth-tax Act 1957 of land covered by the provisions of Urban Land (C&R) Act, 1976. In general, the value of any asset, other than cash is either determined under Wealth tax Rules 1958 or is the price which in the opinion of the wealth-tax Officer it would fetch if sold in the open market on the valuation date. The method chosen for each particular property depends on the particular features of that property and is also governed by norms of valuation as enumerated in Court pronouncements.

Strategies for removing regional imbalances

2086. PROF. CHANRESH P. THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the new strategies adopted for removing regional imbalances in economic development in the Seventh Plan programmes; and

(b) the progress of implementation of such strategies made so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) & (b) An important objective of planning has been to bring about a progressive reduction in regional disparities by several policy measures such as allocation of Central assistance to the States in accordance with the revised Gadgil formula (which is weighted in favour of less developed States, including special category States) and special Area Development Programmes like Desert Development Programme, Drought Prone Area Programme Hill Area

Development Programme and Programmes for the development of tribal areas. The Central Government has also been extending a number of concessions and facilities for industries to the States; e established in selected backward areas under the Central Investment Subsidy Scheme, Transport Subsidy Scheme and the Infrastructural Subsidy Scheme. Besides these measures, the Seventh Plan lays stress on increase in agricultural productivity, particularly of rice coarse cereal pulses and oil seeds, and also envisages a major programme of human resource development as part of the strategy to reduce inter regional disparities. Central poverty alleviation programmes are also weighted in favour of poorer States having a larger number of rural unemployed persons.

All the above measures are being implemented vigorously.

Declining per capita income

2(187. PROF. CHANDRESH P. THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of five States listed from the bottom in respect of per capita income.

(b) the States where the per capita income has gone down in the last three years; and

(c) the steps initiated by the Planning Commission to improve their situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Figures of Quick Estimates of Per Capita Income (Per Capita Net State Domestic Product) 1985-86 have not yet been supplied to the Central Statistical Organisation by most of the States. Based on the provisional estimate of Per Capita Income (Per Capita Net State Domestic Product) furnished by the States to the Central Statistical Organisation, the Per Capita Income (Per Capita Net State Domestic Product)

at constant (1970-71) prices have been used for comparison. Accordingly, it is noticed that in 1984-85, the 5 States at the bottom in the Per Capita Income (Per Capita Net State Domestic Product) are: Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Manipur.

(b) The Per Capita Income (Per Capita Net State Domestic Product) at constant (1970-71) Prices has not gone down uniformly during the last 3 years i.e., 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85, in any of the States. However, there has been a slight decline in per capita Net State Domestic Product at constant (1970-71) prices in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa and Rajasthan in 1984-85 as compared to 1983-84.

(c) The Special steps initiated to improve the situation of the less developed States are:—

(i) Transfer of resources from the Central Government to the State Governments for meeting their Plan expenditure according to a formula which is weighted in favour of the backward States whose per capita income is below the national average.

(ii) Devolution of non-Plan resources in accordance with the award of the Eighth Finance Commission which favours the backward States and seek to reduce regional imbalances between the States in addition to covering the revenue gaps,

(iii) Providing Special Central Assistance for the development of backward areas in the States such as hill areas, desert areas, drought-prone areas and also areas having concentration of tribal populations.

(iv) Setting up North Eastern Council for the Integrated and Coordinated development of North Eastern Region comprising States