

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

of Assam Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram.

(v) Providing special incentives in the form of investment subsidy, airport subsidy, subsidy for infrastructure development and concessional finance for accelerating the industrial development of the industrially backward regions in the States.

Commercial Banks not releasing payments under IRDP

2088. SHRI DEBA PRASAD RAY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Commercial Banks do not always release the cases sponsored by the QRDAS for payments under IRDP and thereby standing in the way of achieving the target fixed by Government in this regard; and

(b) if so, how many back log cases have been accumulated in various commercial banks in 1985-86 as far as the implementation of IRDP was concerned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Commercial banks have been sanctioning loan for all viable activities under IRDP to the eligible beneficiaries sponsored by District Rural Development Agencies (DRDA) and according to the target fixed for the year. During the Sixth Five Year Plan period, as

against the physical target of 15 million families to be assisted, the banks had provided assistance to 16.56 million families. During the year 1985-86 as against the physical target of 24.71 lakh families to be assisted the banks had provided assistance to 30.61 lakh families.

(b) According to the data available with Reserve Bank of India, at the end of March, 1986, 1,08,172 applications under IRDP were pending with the 28 Public Sector Banks out of 17,32,217 applications received by them during the year 1985-86.

Allocation of labour welfare expenses

2089. SHRI RAOOF VAUULLAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State-wise allocation for development and labour welfare expenses has any relation to the collection of salt cess in that State;

(b) what is the total collection of salt cess in India and the administrative expenditure and development and welfare expenses year-wise and State-wise since 1980-81; and

(c) what are the recommendations of the Varadarajan Committee on Salt cess and whether Gujarat has demanded for their implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE -SHRI B. K. GADHVI: (a) No, Sir.

(b) A(See below)