

nistrative and other peculiarities of their respective States.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e). It is felt that it would be too early to undertake a comprehensive evaluation of Block-level Planning at this stage, as a large number of States have yet to set up a proper machinery for block-level planning.

Minister's visit to U.S.S.R.

860. SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he visited U.S.S.R. during the last two months;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) whether he had talks with the Russian Minister and leaders, if so, the nature of the talks in the light of the Sixth Plan requirements?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND LABOUR (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) From 20th to 28th October, 1980

(c) Discussions were held with some of the Soviet Ministers and leaders. The discussions mainly related to cooperation between the Planning bodies of India and the USSR. However, some preliminary discussions also took place on Indo-Soviet economic cooperation during the Sixth Plan.

Allocation of Funds to the States

861. SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have in principle agreed to allocate funds to the States according to population or backwardness;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government will lay a statement of the needs of various States and allocation made thereunder; and

(d) what is the basis adopted for the allocation of funds?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND LABOUR (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) (b) and (d). As decided by the National Development Council in its meeting held in August, 1980 Central Assistance to States for the Sixth Five Year Plan 1980-85 would be allocated on the basis of modified Gadgil Formula which takes into account, *inter alia*, population as well as backwardness of the States.

(c) The allocation of funds to the individual States in the light of the National Development Council decision is yet to be finalised.

Amount utilized during the last five years by Uttar Pradesh

862. SHRI NAGESWAR PRASAD SHAHI: Will the Minister of PLANNING to be pleased to state:

(a) the amount unutilized by the Government of Uttar Pradesh during each of the last five years which was sanctioned under the Plan; and

(b) the directions, if any, issued by the Central Government to the Government of Uttar Pradesh to utilize that amount sanctioned for the State?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND LABOUR (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) and (b). As will be seen from the following table, the expenditure incurred during the last five years 1975-76 to 1979-80 exceeds the approved outlay each year except during 1977-78 when there was a negligible shortfall.