

Of these, techno-economic clearance of the Central Electricity Authority and recommendation of Ministry of Energy have been received for two schemes, namely Maneri Bhali Stage II hydro electric scheme and Unchahar thermal scheme and investment approval of the Planning Commission is pending.

(b) Environmental clearance of Maneri Bhali Stage II project by the Deptt. of Science and Technology is awaited. In regard to Unchahar thermal scheme, feasibility of coal supply is being examined by Ministry of Energy.]

Growth rate in Corporate Sector investment and saving

886. DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that while the rate of growth in Corporate sector investment and saving in most of the developing countries is above 7 per cent, in India it is not even 3 per cent; and

(b) what are the reasons therefor and in what manner Government propose to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI):

(a) It has not been possible to ascertain from published sources whether in most of the developing countries the rate of growth in corporate sector investment and saving is above 7 per cent. It is also not clear from the Question whether the growth rates mentioned relate to estimates at current or constant prices. In any case, the official estimates available for India are at current prices. According to the estimates made by the Central Statistical Organisation, the gross investment and gross savings (at current prices) in the private corporate sector (including co-operatives) increased by 10.5 per cent

and 8.2 per cent per annum respectively during 1970-71 to 1977-78.

(b) With a view to improving the investment climate in industry the Government have announced certain measures in the Budget proposals for 1980-81. These relate to additional depreciation allowance on new investment and certain relaxation in respect of convertibility clause applicable to loans from financial institutions and concession in import duty for certain items of equipment. Government expect that increase in public sector investment, and improvement in the functioning of infrastructure like power coal and railways will have a desirable effect on the economy, including investment in the corporate sector.

Effect of Annual Plans

887. DR. RAFIQ ZAKARIA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the totality of effects of Annual Plans on our planned economic development; and

(b) whether Government propose to repeat this experiment?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI):

(a) and (b) The Annual Plans are the operational instrument for implementing the Five Year Plans. The totality of the effects of the Annual Plans will thus be the achievements of the country's Five Year Plans so far.

The mechanism of the Annual Plans by which the Five Year Plans of Centre and States get implemented through their budgetary processes, is being continued.

Ceiling on circulation of money in the Sixth Five year plan period

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

(a) whether the Planning Commission has the power to fix the ceiling on the total money circulation during the Sixth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission has no power to fix the ceiling on the total money circulation during a Five Year Plan. However, a broad view on the reasonable order of monetary expansion during the Sixth Plan period (1980-85) would be taken by the Planning Commission as part of the exercise for formulating the Plan.

Scheme for the development of backward areas

889. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any comprehensive scheme for the development of backward areas in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI): (a) Special area development programmes directed at backward areas like the hill areas, tribal areas, desert areas drought prone areas and irrigation command areas have been formulated. Schemes have also been formulated for target groups in these areas such as small farmers. Besides, measure have also been taken to promote private investment in industrial backward areas.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House indicating the coverage and Central assistance under these programmes. [See Appendix CXV, Annexure 94]

Bilateral agreements for co-operation in the field of atomic energy and nuclear technology

890. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of countries with which India has bilateral agreements for co-operation in the field of atomic energy and nuclear technology;

(b) what is the quantum of technical assistance rendered to other countries during the years 1977-78, 1978-79 and 1979-80 in terms of men-months of experts deputed and of trainees and their country-wise break-up, under these agreements;

(c) what are the main fields of co-operation and what is the cost thereof;

(d) what is the quantum of technical assistance received from other countries during the years 1977-78, 1978-79 and 1979-80 in similar terms; and

(e) what are the details of the technical assistance rendered to other countries under programmes sponsored by IAEA, the beneficiary countries, the fields and the men-months involved?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Hungary, Iran, Iraq, Italy; Libya; Poland, Romania, Syria, United States of America, Union of the Soviet Socialist Republic and Yugoslavia.

(b) to (d) The bilateral agreements generally provide for exchange of scientists, offer of fellowships training carrying out collaborative programmes as mutually agreed upon and exchange