

Central Assistance is provided to the State for the development of these areas. With a view to integrating the efforts under the normal State Plan and the Special Central Assistance, a separate sub-plan for these areas has been in operation since the inception of the programme. For the year 1980-81, U.P. Hill Areas Sub-Plan with a total outlay of Rs. 72.91 crores comprising Rs. 35.75 crores as Special Central Assistance and Rs. 37.16 crores from State Plan has been finalised.

**National Committee for the development of backward areas**

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

(a) whether Government have set up a national committee for the development of backward areas in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and by when the Committee is likely to submit its report to Government?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee was set up on November, 1978 under the chairmanship of Shri B. Sivaraman, formerly Member, Planning Commission. The membership of the Committee includes officials and non-officials. The term of the Committee has been extended to December, 1980 by which time it is expected to submit its report.

**गरीबी से नीचे जीवन निर्वाह करने वाले लोग**

379. श्री हुकम देव नारायण यादव : क्या योजना मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि ग्रामीण तथा शहरी दोनों क्षेत्रों में गरीबी की रेखा से नीचे जीवन निर्वाह करने वाली जनसंख्या की प्रतिशतता कितनी है और उन-

**की दशा में सुधार करने की दृष्टि से सरकार के विचाराधीन योजना का ब्योरा क्या है ?**

**[Percentage of population living below poverty line**

379. SHRI HUKMDEO NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state what is the percentage of population living below poverty line both in rural and urban areas and the details of the plan under Government's consideration with a view to improving their lot?

†[THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI

**योजना मंत्री (श्री नारायण दत्त तिवारी):**

यह अनुमान है कि वर्ष 1972-73 में देश में क्रमशः ग्रामीण और शहरी जनसंख्या का 54.09 और 41.22 प्रतिशत भाग गरीबी के स्तर से नीचे रह रहा था।

सरकार गरीबी और बेरोजगारी को दूर करने के मूल उद्देश्यों से नई छठी पंच वर्षीय योजना (1980-85) तैयार करना चाहती है। इस प्रयोजन के लिए, योजना में समाज के कमजोर वर्गों को लाभ पहुंचाने वाले कार्यक्रमों को उच्च प्राथमिकता दी जाएगी। ब्योरे तैयार किए जा रहे हैं।

NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI): It is estimated that 54.09 and 41.22 per cent of the rural and urban population respectively was living below the poverty line in the country during 1972-73.

The Government intends to formulate the new Sixth Five Year Plan (1980—85) with the basic objectives of removal of poverty and unemployment. For this purpose, the Plan will give high priority to programme benefiting the weaker sections of the society. The details are being worked out.]

†[ ] English translation.