

nical inputs towards the development of the country in priority areas.

(b) and (c) A sum of \$ 1,00,000 has been initially allotted from the UNDP IPF allocation for this year. There will be no direct counterpart contribution of the Government of India.

The cost of International travel of the Scientists/Engineers etc. invited, as well as their per diem at UN rates, during their stay in India, would be met out of UNDP funds allocated for the Project. Indian Missions in selected countries have been informed about the project and requested to forward particulars of interested scientists. An inter-departmental Committee has been set up to define procedures for selection, areas of priority and such other details relating to operation of the project.

Ways and means to achieve growth rate

602. SHRI N. K. P. SALVE; Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(b) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has prepared and submitted background papers outlining the ways and means to achieve a growth rate of at least 7 per cent during the 1980s;

(c) if so, what are the suggestions made by the Federation; and

(d) what decisions Government have taken in this regard?

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

(a) A summary of the suggestions made by the Federation is enclosed in the statement.

(b) The Government will give due consideration to these suggestions.

Statement

1. A high level Joint Forum of Government and Business should be set

up to discuss and decide measures to which both should be totally committed.

1. The large number of legislations, controls and regulations, which have proliferated over the years, should be drastically reduced.

2. The cost of projects has gone up considerably on account of inflation. This has made fresh investment unattractive. The fiscal policy should be revised to compensate for this.

3. Depreciation for tax purposes should be linked to a machinery price index.

4. The tax system should be oriented toward encouraging savings by exempting all productive savings from taxation.

6. The terms on which the term lending institutions finance industry should be moderated.

7. The import of technology must be liberalised.

Central assistance to West Bengal

603. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central assistance as a proportion of West Bengal's outlay on annual State Plan is on the decline since 1976-77;

(b) whether there are indications that the proportion of Central assistance will register further decline in 1980-81;

(c) if so, what are the details;

(d) whether the State Government has given representation to the Centre on this issue; and

(e) if so; what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI):

(a) to (c) The required information is as under:

Year	Central assistance as % of Plan outlay.
1976-77	21.31
1977-78	23.47
1978-79	35.13
1979-80	24.17
1980-81	23.63

(d) The State Government has requested the Planning commission to raise the State Plan outlay for 1980-81 from Rs. 554.14 crores as approved by the Planning Commission to Rs. 580 crores provided in the State Budget

(e) The State Government has been requested to indicate the pattern of financing of the proposed outlay of Rs. 580 crores.

Annual plan for Kerala

604. SHRI K. C. SEBASTIAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the annual plan for Kerala for the year 1980-81 has been finally approved by the Planning Commission; and

(b) whether Government propose to provide any special assistance for the new social welfare schemes of Kerala Government like pension to agricultural labourers and unemployment doles?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI): (a) Taking into account the estimate of available financial resources, the Planning Commission had determined the size of Kerala's Annual Plan for 1980-81. However, the State Government has now sent supplementary proposals for inclusion in the Annual Plan, which are under examination and have not yet been approved by the Planning Commission.

(b) The Planning Commission have not received any proposal from the Government of Kerala for providing pension to agricultural labourers. However, the State Government had proposed a Scheme viz., "Employment Assistance in their Supplementary Annual Plan proposals for 1980-81. Under this Scheme, it is proposed to give unemployment allowance to the chronically unemployed who have been registered with the Employment Exchanges. The proposal is under examination. However, the broad approach of the Central Government is that in dealing with unemployment problem, primary attention should be paid to the creation of more job opportunities rather than relying on unemployment doles.

Setting up of planning boards in States

605. PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a lack of planning process in each State due to absence of autonomous planning boards;

(b) if so, what measures Government propose to undertake in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to set up full-time planning board in each State on the pattern of Planning Commission;

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(e) if not what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI): (a) No, Sir. All the States have constituted suitable mechanisms at the State level of formulation of development plans, even though there is considerable scope for further strengthening of the planning machinery in many States.

(b) to (e) The apex planning bodies at the State level which are variously called State Planning Boards/Commission | Advisory Committees have been set up on the recommendations of the Planning Commission to assist in