

Sl. No.	Schemes	No. of plots developed	No. of plots already disposed of or kept reserved for various purposes	No. of plots available for disposal
6	Friends Colony	90	5	85
7	<i>Wazirpur Residential area—</i>			
	Phase I	1920	..	1920
	Phase II	794	..	794
8	Masjid Moth residential area	60	3	57
9	Pankha Road Block 'A'	327	..	327
10	Do. Block 'B'	425	..	425
11	Do. Block 'C'	158	..	158
12	Do. Block 'D'
13	Jhilmilia Phase II	200	..	200
	TOTAL	9690	5401	4289

INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS FOR BACKWARD AREAS IN MADHYA PRADESH

840. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since drawn up proposals for locating Public Sector Industries in Madhya Pradesh to meet the needs of the backward areas; and

(b) if so, the details of such proposals?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI ASOKA MEHTA): (a) and (b) In the location of Public Sector projects the claims of relatively backward areas are kept in view wherever this is possible without giving up essential technical and economic criteria. The development of backward areas has, however, to be achieved essentially through promotional measures for which provision has been made in the State Plans including that of Madhya Pradesh.

ONGC FAILURE TO PROCURE OIL AT JAWALAMUKHI AND IN HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT

841. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has failed to procure oil and gas at Jawalamukhi and in Hoshiarpur District;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to institute an enquiry into the charges levelled by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission Employees Union of wrong drilling and corrupt practices and the Union was called upon to give evidence; and

(c) whether it is a fact that without declaring to close the work at Jawalamukhi and in Hoshiarpur District, employees were transferred to far off places without following the principle of 'last come, first go'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND OF PLANNING AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI K. RAGHURAMIAH): (a) No oil or gas of any commercial significance has been found in these areas so far.

(b) Government have made enquiries with the Commission and have been assured that the selection of drill sites was done on the advice of the competent technical personnel of the Commission. There is, therefore, no need to make further enquiries.

(c) Transfers of personnel were made according to the operational requirements of the work. Since there was no retrenchment, the adoption of the principle of 'Last come, first go' does not arise.

BRITISH AID TO INDIA

842. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the British Government has increased economic aid to India this year; and

(b) if so, what is the total aid proposed to be given for the current year and the conditions under which the aid is being given?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) and (b) No indication is as yet available about the quantum and terms of economic aid from Britain to India for the current financial year.

SMUGGLING ON INDO-PAK BORDER

843. SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the ratio of smuggling on Indo-Pak border towards West Pakistan as compared to previous years; and

(b) what is the main item of smuggling on this border?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) Statistics of seizures on the Indo-West Pakistan border indicate that smuggling on this border has slightly decreased. In the year 1966-67 the value of seizures effected on this border in Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Rajasthan was about Rs. 2.51 lakhs as compared to the average of Rs. 3.54 lakhs during the previous four years. On the Gujarat-West Pakistan border the value of seizures effected during the year 1966 was about Rs. 8,000/- as compared to the average of Rs. 25,000/- during the previous four years.

(b) The main items of smuggling on the Indo-West Pakistan border are gold, silver, cloves, cardamom, opium, cloth and currency.

PRICES OF ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES

844. SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the prices of the essential commodities which have gone up after the introduction of the new budget; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to arrest these prices?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Budget itself is a balanced one and will, therefore, not add to pressure of demand in the economy. Government also expect that producers and distributors will absorb excise duties wherever high profit margins are being made. The situation is being kept under review and remedial measures will be taken as and when necessary.

845. [Transferred to the 23rd June, 1967.]