

(c) The Prime Minister has announced, during his visit to J&K on 13-14th February, 1997 that the demand of the State Govt. for waiver of Central Debt amounting to Rs. 1275 crores would be looked into sympathetically and decision taken soon. A Central Team will be deputed for discussions in this regard.

(d) The interest payable by the State Government on account of outstanding loans to the Ministry of Finance during the year 1996-97 is Rs. 258.97 crores

Plan Objectives

1829. SHRI S.K. KARVENDHAN :
SHRI SUBRAHMANYAM NELAVALA :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission in its Approach Paper has suggested greater freedom for States in determining their annual plan size and outlays;

(b) if so, whether the States would therefore, be free to check their plan size, taking in to account the Central assistance;

(c) the other suggestions made by the Planning Commission the present status thereof and the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken thereon; and

(d) whether States Governments will have the Plan outlays get financed, without diverting the funds earmarked for each sector ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Among the other suggestions made in the Approach Paper for allowing greater autonomy to the State Governments are :

- (i) In principle, Centrally Sponsored Schemes should be confined to certain areas, and the rest should be transferred to the States along with corresponding funds in a phased manner in consultations with Central as well as State Governments;
- (ii) The approach adopted in respect of Basic Minimum Services should be applied in some other important areas in which funds would be earmarked for achievement of pre-specified goals. States would, however, be given sufficient

flexibility for designing the programmes and in implementing them in these areas;

(iii) Annual Plan documents of the States should be examined to ensure their broad adherence to the Five Year Plans and the States should be free to decide the annual phasing of sectoral/subsectoral allocations keeping in view the approved five year plan outlays, national priorities and their own needs;

(iv) Earmarking of outlays should be restricted to the minimum extent necessary consistent with national priorities. But the States would not have the freedom to divert funds from earmarked sectors/schemes without approval of Planning Commission.

The above suggestions of the Approach Paper will be incorporated, as appropriate, in the Ninth Five Year Plan document and implemented during the Plan period in consultation with Central and State Governments.

[Translation]

Self-Employment in Uttar Pradesh

1830. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the self-employment programme has been implemented in Uttar Pradesh for the urban youths; and

(b) if so, the number of persons benefited under the said programme during the last three years till date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Two Centrally-sponsored urban employment schemes namely, Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP) are being implemented in the country, including Uttar Pradesh. The Scheme of Urban Micro-Enterprises (SUME) under Nehru Rozgar Yojana helps urban poor beneficiaries in setting up self-employment ventures through grant of subsidy and loan. PMIUPEP was launched in November, 1995 to address the problem of urban poor in small town with a multi-pronged, integrated approach to the economic, social and physical conditions of the urban poor. One of the several components of this scheme is to provide self-employment to the urban poor who are below the poverty line and having education upto 9th class or less.

(b) The beneficiaries assisted for self-employment during last three years under NRY in Uttar Pradesh are detailed below :-