

many have been cleared for implementation. The thrust of the measures being adopted is to accelerate the pace of power development towards ensuring adequacy of power supply.

#### Termination of Fifth Plan

526. SHRI CHITTA BASU :  
SHRI S.S. GUPTA :  
SHRI S. D. SOMASUNDARAM:

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission in its last meeting has decided to cut short the on-going Fifth Plan and terminate it in March, 1978 ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether the Planning Commission has decided to start the Sixth Plan in April, 1978 as the First Year of the Rolling Plan ; and

(d) if so, the details of the follow-up action in relation thereto?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI) : (a) to (d). The new planning strategy proposed by the Planning Commission will imply substantial shifts in the inter-sectoral allocation of investments indicated in the Fifth Five Year Plan. It has thus become necessary to prepare a new development plan to achieve the objective of greater employment, based on revised investment priorities. Since it is desirable to initiate such a Plan with the least possible delay, the Commission has proposed that the Fifth Five Year Plan should end with the current financial year and a new medium-term investment plan should begin in April, 1978 for the period 1978 to 1983. The horizon of this Plan will be extended, by estimating the sectoral outlays and projecting the output of major sectors for one additional year at the end of each year of the Plan. This is the concept of the Rolling Plan.

The Commission is at present engaged in preparing the quantitative framework for the 1978-83 Plan. Discussions with State Government and Central Ministries are to commence shortly.

#### Power Shortage in Eastern Region

527. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether power deficit in the Eastern region is estimated to be to the tune of 6.14 million K. Wt. per day ;

(b) if so, what specific steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken to improve the situation ;

(c) whether any techno-economic survey has been conducted for hydro-power generation in this area ; and

(d) if so, the result of such survey?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMAGHANDRAN) : (a) During the current month, the anticipated power deficit in the Eastern Region is estimated to be about 4 million units per day .

(b) the assessment for the Eastern Region for 1977-78 is as follows :

Installed capacity	4916 MW
Peak Availability	2800 MW
Peak Load	2967 MW
Deficit	167 MW

This deficit is sought to be met by better maintenance and management of the existing units with a view to obtaining increased output from them. In addition, close monitoring of new projects under execution is done, with a view to commissioning them at the earliest and thus relieving the situation.

(c) A survey of hydro-electric potential covering the Eastern Region was undertaken in 1953. Recently, additional staff had been sanctioned for conducting a re-survey.

(d) According to the original survey the potential of various rivers of the Eastern Region was estimated to be 3.63 million KW at 60% load factor. The re-survey is expected to make a fresh assessment of the potential available.

#### Industrial Licensing Policy

528. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA :  
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK ;  
SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT ;  
SHRI S. THIAGARAJAN :  
SHRI S.D. SOMASUNDARAM ;  
SHRI MANI RAM BAGRI :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to change the Industrial Licensing policy ;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and