

(b) the number of claims preferred by Government of United Nations Compensation Commission for clearance;

(c) the total amount so far received and number of claims still pending with Commission for clearance; and

(d) efforts made by Government to make quick disposal of remaining claims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) At the time of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, estimated population of Indian nationals in Kuwait was 1,72,000 (one lakh and seventy two thousand). Government of India evacuated approx. 11,33,000 (One lakh and thirty three thousand) Indians during the Gulf crisis.

(b) Government of India have received, and have forwarded to the United Nations Compensation Commission (UNCC) 1,05,010 claims under category A; 258 claims under category B; 39,435 claims under category C and 937 claims under category D. (A total of 1,45,640 claims). These are all individual claims.

Besides, the Government have also sent to UNCC 118 "Corporate" claims, under category E.

(c) The total amount of compensation - money received so far from UNCC is US \$ 72048788 (US Dollars Seven crores twenty lakhs forty eight thousand seven hundred eighty eight.) The number of pending individual claims is 1,13,783. This includes all 937 claims under category D.

(d) Government have, from time to time, impressed on the UNCC to expedite settlement of Indian claims. Government also remain in constant touch with the Commission to safeguard the interests of our claimants. Moreover, once funds have been received from the UNCC, Government ensures that they are distributed quickly among the successful claimants through the designated banks.

Review of Draft for Ninth Plan

1222. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO:
DR. CHINTA MOHAN :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:
SHRI CHANDRASHEKHAR SAHU:
SHRI G. GANGA REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the present Government have decided to revive the Ninth Plan draft; and

(b) if so, the priorities of the Ninth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) The draft Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) approved at the Internal Meetings of the Planning Commission was released on March 1, 1998 by the then Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. This plan is yet to be considered by the National Development Council. The Government have decided to review this draft so as to suitably reflect the altered priorities, as enunciated in the National Agenda for Governance. Detailed Action Plans are already under preparation which will, upon finalisation, be integrated with the existing draft. This revised document will then be submitted, through due process, for consideration and approval of the National Development Council.

Pending Irrigation Projects

1223. SHRI P.C. THOMAS:
SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:
SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals for irrigation projects are pending with the Union Government for clearance at present and the period of pendency of each proposal, State-wise;

(b) the details of projects sanctioned by the Government during 1996-97 and 1997-98, State-wise;

(c) the number out of them likely to be undertaken with the assistance of foreign countries and international agencies, State-wise; and

(d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to clear remaining proposals expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) The State-wise details about the number of pending projects is given in the attached Statement-I.

(b) The State-wise details of projects approved by the Planning Commission during 1996-97 & 1997-98 is given in the Statement-II enclosed.

(c) Irrigation projects are posed for assistance of foreign countries and international agencies, only after they have been approved by the Planning Commission from investment angle.

(d) The clearance of irrigation projects is linked with compliance of observations made by the various Central appraising agencies by the State Governments.