

Central Grants for Tribal Welfare Projects in North-Eastern States

4268. SHRI KIBIT BIKRAM DEB BURMAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of Central grants made during 1976-77, 1977-78 and 1978-79 so far for Tribal Welfare projects and schemes in Tripura, Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh; and

(b) the details of such schemes approved by Central Government for the said States/Union Territories for 1978-79?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI DHANIK LAL MANDAL):

(a) Tribal sub-plans have been prepared in respect of Tripura and Manipur and the amounts of special Central assistance allocated for the tribal sub-plans of these States has been as follows:

	1976-77	1977-78	1978-79
	(Rs. in lakhs)		
(1) Tripura	68.00	96.40	115.00
(2) Manipur	90.00	128.00	177.00

No tribal sub-plans have been drawn up in respect of Nagaland, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh as they are predominantly tribal, and the entire State Plans are therefore directed for the development of the Scheduled Tribes in these States. Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh being Union Territories, the whole expenditure on their Plans is met by the Centre.

(b) The tribal sub-plan include all sectors of development like agriculture, horticulture, irrigation, cooperation, education, health, nutrition etc.

Sharing of resources between Centre and States

4269. SHRI RAM PRAKASH TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to appoint a committee to revise the existing arrangements in respect of sharing resources between the Centre and the States and the question of centrally sponsored schemes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI DESAI): (a) and (b). The question of sharing of resources between the Centre and the States is within the terms of the Seventh Finance Commission. Besides, a Committee of the National Development Council has been set up, with Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission as the Chairman and the Union Finance Minister and the Chief Ministers of all States as Members, to discuss fiscal arrangements in the light of the Draft Five Year Plan 1978-83.

The terms of reference of the Committee are as follows:

1. "To review fiscal arrangements between the States and the Centre, having regard to the provisions of the Constitution, in the light of the larger role to be assigned to State Governments in the next five years in development planning and execution, and *inter alia*.

(a) to review the working of the Gadgil Formula, and to recommend such changes in this formula as appear necessary;

(b) to review the scope of Central and Centrally sponsored schemes in sectors primarily within the responsibility of the States, in the context of the criteria last laid down by the NDC and to recommend such changes as appear necessary.

2. To advise on mobilising national resources at all levels, adequate

for financing both plan and non-plan developmental outlay in the period 1978—83”.

The first meeting of the Committee is being convened on 21st and 22nd August, 1978.

Rise in Price of Singer Sewing Machine

4270. SHRI SHAMBHU NATH CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of Singer Sewing Machines has risen from Rs. 600 in 1965 to Rs. 3270 during the intervening years;

(b) whether during the past 1-1/2 years the rise has been from Rs. 1725 to Rs. 3270;

(c) if so, whether this exorbitant price is not adversely affecting the people's efforts for self-employment in cottage industries;

(d) whether Government will examine the justification of this jump in prices and find out if it has been brought about by creating artificial scarcity because of virtual monopolist control over the production and distribution of these machines; and

(e) the steps Government propose to take for curbing this tendency and bring this machine within the easy reach and means of the common man?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI-MATI ABHA MIATI): (a) and (b). The price range indicated does not relate to sewing machines. Presumably, the reference is to Simac knitting machines, in respect of which price increase of this order has been reported.

(c) to (e). The knitting machines marketed by M/s. Singer Sewing Machine Company are manufactured by M/s. Simac Group (India) Private

Limited. The demand for these machines is not being fully met on account of the low production of the company arising from their various difficulties. Steps have been taken to render assistance to the other units making these machines with a view to stepping up the availability to meet the increasing demand. It is expected that with the increase in production, increased demand satisfaction can be ensured.

Facilities for Purchase of Materials for Small Industries by Coal India Ltd.

4271. SHRI RAMANAND TIWARY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coal India Ltd. provide any special facilities for purchase of material for small industries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The facilities extended by Coal India Ltd., consist of the following:

(i) Lists of requirements of small items/spare parts are given to State Governments for circulation amongst small scale units under them;

(ii) Facilities are provided for visits to coalfields to the representatives of small industries with a view to enabling them to examine the requirements of machinery used in coal mines;

(iii) Small scale industrial units which are registered with the Small Scale Industries Organisations are automatically treated as registered with coal companies for sending limited enquiries for supply of spare parts, components etc.

(iv) Reduction/waiver of security deposits/earnest money where possible is made in favour of small units.