

124. Working Group on the Welfare of the Handicapped.
 125. Working Group on the Residual Area of Social Welfare.

XXI. Economic Growth and Policy

126. Working Group on Civil Supplies.

Requirement of Heavy Water

2472. SHRI SURAJ BHAN :
 SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :
 SHRI UTTAM RATHOD :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) unit-wise requirement of Heavy Water this year;

(b) the plan-wise supply position and the estimated capacity utilisation in each case and how much Heavy Water would be required to be imported and from where; and

(c) by when India is expected to be self-dependent in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE, ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Each operating 235 MWe Pressurised Heavy Water reactor requires on average upto 12 tonnes of heavy water to make up for operating losses.

(b) Baroda and Tuticorin Heavy Water Plants have shown significant improvement in their performance. The Kota Heavy Water Plant is in an advanced stage of commissioning. The commissioning of Talcher Heavy Water Plant is being resumed during this month. During the current year a total of about 70 tonnes of heavy water is expected to be imported from USSR under the existing supply contract for use in RAPS.

(c) The capacities of the existing and the planned Heavy Water Plants are such as to ensure self sufficiency with respect to heavy water for the Nuclear Power Programme.

Removal of Poverty among Small and Marginal Farmers of U.P. and Bihar

2473. SHRI E. BALANANDAN : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state the concrete steps that Government propose to take under the Sixth Plan to remove the poverty of the marginal and small farmers of Eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI P.C. SETHI) : The major anti-poverty programmes launched in the Sixth Five Year Plan are :

(i) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP).

(ii) National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and

(iii) Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP).

Small and Marginal Farmers whose annual household income is below Rs. 3500/- are part of the target group under the IRDP and are being given subsidy at the rate of 25 per cent and 33½ per cent, respectively, alongwith credit for income generating activities.

Besides, from the fourth year of the Sixth Five Year Plan a scheme has been introduced for augmenting the productive capabilities of the small and marginal farmers.

All these schemes are also applicable to marginal and small farmers of Eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

Project Cost of NALCO

2474. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :