

to Rs. 46 crores, of which about 50 per cent will be in foreign exchange. These figures will, however, be further refixed during the course of process design.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No industrial licence has yet been granted, but a letter of intent has been issued.

(d) The proposals for the setting up of Haldia Refinery as well as for a fertilizer factory are still under the consideration of the Government.

Rate of Interest on General Provident Fund

8644. **Shri M. L. Sondhi:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have under consideration a proposal to increase the rate of interest on the Provident Fund deposits of its employees;

(b) whether such deposits will be given the same rate of interest as fixed deposits in the banks; and

(c) if so, whether the decision will take effect from the current financial year?

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) to (c). The interest rate is determined annually on the basis of the average yield on Central Government Rupee loans for the preceding three years. The interest rates offered by commercial banks on fixed deposits are not relevant for this purpose.

The rate of interest on General Provident Fund balances has already been raised from 4.80 per cent last year to 4.80 per cent this year and the next review is due only next year.

Central Development Projects

8645. **Shri Parthasarathy:**

Shri M. L. Sondhi:

Shri Narendra Singh Mehra:

Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether pending finalisation of the Fourth Plan, Government have tentatively decided to set up new Central projects in various States;

(b) if so, what are those projects and their locations with estimated cost; and

(c) whether in doing so, the principle of regional development has not been lost sight of?

The Minister of Planning, Petroleum and Chemicals and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta): (a) to (c). The list of the Central Industrial and Mineral projects to be set up during the Fourth Five Year Plan is detailed on pages 283 to 288 of the Draft Outline of the Fourth Five Year Plan. The locations of most of these projects alongwith the estimated cost and total investment to be made during the Fourth Plan period are indicated therein. In the Transport and Communications sector, new projects are formulated with reference to transport requirements in relation to development programmes of mining, industry etc. and locations are not decided on a regional basis. As regards Power, the Neyveli Power Station in Madras is to be expanded by 200 MW at a cost of Rs. 33 crores. A 400 MW Atomic Power Station at Kalpakkam, Madras costing Rs. 104 crores and Stage II of Rana Pratap Sagar Atomic Station in Rajasthan with 200 MW capacity costing Rs. 51.5 crores are to be commenced in the Fourth Plan for completion in the Fifth Plan. Also, a thermal power station of 300 MW capacity is to be set up in Delhi at a cost of Rs. 40 crores.

The general principles governing the location of projects have been enumerated in Chapter IX entitled 'Balanced Regional Development' in the Report of the Third Five Year Plan.