

It appears that there exists a very flourishing racket in India where cheaply manufactured vitamins, cough syrups and health tonics, were aggressively advertised and sold for very high profits. Doctors were given free samples and gifts and they thus 'induced' the use of these sub-standard drugs.

Even on the C.G.H.S. side comparatively cheaper drugs have recently been introduced and the result is that these are not only at times ineffective but are also issued without being wrapped in foils and one cannot make out what it is. It is high time that Government even at the expense of ignoring whatever little money might be saved in getting tablets open without being wrapped in foils, should make it a rule that all tablets be sold in foils which should be properly labelled and the name of the manufacturing drug unit indicated thereon. No encouragement in the name of promotion of small scale industries be given to any units lacking in any proper research and testing apparatus. Government should take immediately steps to streamline their drug policy and regulate the production and marketing of drugs and see that none of these drugs have got any side effects.

(viii) Need to consider the proposal of the Bihar citizens' council on Education for improvement of Education in elementary schools in Bihar.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda) : The condition of elementary education in Bihar is in a deplorable condition.

A survey conducted this year by the Bihar Citizens Council on Education General Secretary, Prof. Harishanker Prasad Sinha, who is a reader of political science in Patna University reveals that about 70 per cent schools in Patna have teachers fewer than the number of classes; 24 per cent have only one room or only a verandah for holding four or even five classes; 50 per cent are in a very bad condition for want of proper repair; and 48 per cent of the schools do not have latrines or even urinals.

Besides, there is hardly any school in Patna where teaching aids are available, not to speak of children undergoing any medical check up.

The Bihar Citizens' Council on Education has from time to time been bringing to the State Government's notice the problems that beset elementary education in Patna, in particular, and Bihar in general. While the children of the privileged classes receive education in the private or missionary schools like the St. Michals, St. Xavier's Notse Dame, St. Joseph's Convent, etc., the rest continue to be hampered by poor standards, inadequate facilities and over crowding in schools maintained by the State Government, says a note prepared by the Council.

In view of that, I urge upon the Central Government to give serious thought to the several constructive proposals of the Citizens' Council for improvement of elementary school education in Patna and Bihar and also to implement the suggestions of the Kothari Commission.

PRESENTATION OF PETITION

[Translation]

SHRI KAMMODI LAL JATAV (Morena) : Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to present a petition signed by shri Sadhu Singh Tomar, Vice-President, District Congress (I), Morena, regarding construction of a 'pucca' bridge on Chambal River.

12.26 hrs.

MOTION RE : SEVENTH FIVE
YEAR PLAN, 1985-90—Contd.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We will now take up item No. 19. Prof. Madhu Dandavate.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : On which subject, Sir? I thought, you allowed my motion.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You can speak on item No. 19, whatever comes under that item.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we are having discussion on the Seventh Five Year Plan that has been finalised by the National Development Council. I am constrained to find at the very outset that gradually this House is undergoing devaluation and denigration. Prof. Ranga, because you have been a very veteran Parliamentarian in this House, I say "gradually". As far as the planning processes are concerned this House is subjected to the process of devaluation and denigration.

Sir, gone are the days of late Prime Minister, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru when even at the stage of formulation of the Plan, even at the stage of approach document, there used to be a considerable debate in this House and the former Speakers in this House including Dr. Dhillon will bear me out that there were considerable debate and discussions even at the formulation stage, so that whatever the suggestions the Members of Parliament would offer were considered as relevant to the finalisation of the Plan. But today, I find that that process is already scuttled. Therefore, the debate has become unreal as far as our contribution to the formulation of the Plan and finalisation of the plan is concerned.

The second aspect to which I would like to make a reference is the base of the Plan. Sir, I do not mind they violated certain assurances that are given but even on some of their own pronouncements, they totally reversed them while presenting certain documents to this House. Instead of the year 1984-85 as the base year for this Plan, it is now 1985-86. Especially considering the fact that the total investment in this Plan is going to be of the order of Rs. 320 thousand crores, including, of course, Rs. 180 thousand crores for the public sector, when such a Plan is to be inaugurated, whatever was the earlier commitment at the time of approach document, namely 1984-85 would be the base year, that ought to have been stuck to. But they have shifted the base to

1985-86. I don't think, it is just an academic proposition that we are objecting to the change of base of the Plan. There are certain financial and economic consequences that are very relevant to the shifting of the base year of the Plan. The shift in the base year, at one stroke, has reduced the real outlay of the Plan by 6% to 8%. Reducing the outlay by 6% to 8% itself is a loss in terms of investment of the Plan, and, therefore, I feel that even the shift in the base of the Plan year is definitely highly objectionable. The entire Plan is based on certain wrong premises.

I know that it is too late in the day to discuss the basic premise of the Plan. When we are just supposed to pay some sort of a handsome tribute to the Plan when it is already finalised, to talk and challenge its very basic premise, I fully realise, is too late in the day. But for future historians, it is better that we remain on record what exactly our basic objections are. What are the wrong premises to which I am referring? Take, for instance, the question of deficit financing. This Plan has admitted that in the course of five years, the total quantum of deficit expected is of the order of Rs. 14,000 crores. I think this is a great under-estimate. I do not want to repeat what I said when I initiated a debate on the impact of the present Budget, this year's Budget, on the prices and inflationary pressure on the economy. I have just placed before this House all the figures of projected deficits in the last ten years Budgets and the corresponding deficit that was projected in the revised Budget and actually what happened when the financial year was completed and the actual reality was available to the House. I had indicated that in the last ten years, it has been the consistent experience of the House that whatever be the projected deficit in the Budget, every time that has been increased to a very great extent. (*Interruptions*)

I do not want to repeat all those figures for the ten years.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : I want a clarification.

[Translation]

I was going through the previous papers from which it is clear that it had never happened that the matter might have been considered without the approval of the National Development Council.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Why are you raising that point now? The Minister has already spoken. You take your seat. Professor, you can speak.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : I want information from the Professor. Actually, I was looking to the paper and I came to the conclusion...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : When I give chance, you can speak at that time, not now. Professor, you can carry on.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I myself spoke in the Fifth Lok Sabha. The former Speaker was here up to a few minutes back, Prof. Dhillon. He would have pointed out to you that we had a debate.

Anyway, since you are listening to me at random, he got up and sought certain clarification on the basis of something which he did not hear. Anyway, that is all right.

It requires a great acumen to seek clarification without listening ! I appreciate your intelligence!

I was just pointing out to you, I do not want to indulge in the exercise of repeating for the information of the House last ten years' deficit but just in a summary way, I am pointing out to the experience of even the last Budget and the present Budget. Last time, when the projected Budget was of the order of Rs. 17,000 crores that was the progress of the projected deficit last time. And this time when the projected deficit is of the order of Rs. 3,949 crores, you can well imagine, when we come to the end of the financial year, whether it will not go up to Rs. 7,000 crores or Rs. 8,000 crores. And if that is the experience of these two years,

from the accumulated experience of the past, if you draw the inference to the coming five years, I have not the least doubt that this particular quantum of deficit indicated, that is Rs. 14,000/-crores will be extended by a very big margin and as a result of that, it is again not an academic proposition whether the deficit should be less or more. We are worried about the deficit because there is an inflationary pressure generated by the high deficits and we have not got a situation in which ours is a developed economy in which even the shock of a deficit can be totally absorbed by the economy. Unfortunately, our economy cannot sustain the shock created by the deficit and invariably you will find the deficit, part of it can be absorbed by better monsoon and I always called this Government as a Government of the monsoon gamble. The only way is for the Gods to give them better rains and they say that if God gives us better rains, we will give you better economy and if we give better economy, you will have price stabilisation and inflationary pressure will be less.

On wrong premises they proceed. This time again the monsoon gamble, to some extent, was in their favour, but it has not fully succeeded and, therefore, again the economy is likely to be shattered; inflationary pressures are bound to be generated; and if the same exercise is repeated for the next four or five years, it cannot be different from what has happened in the past. You will find that these inflationary pressures on the economy will upset all our calculations. Therefore, whatever has been projected, the total investment and also the investment in the public sector, when you take in real terms the investment that will be available for producing economic and financial results, you will find that the situation will be extremely difficult. That is one aspect.

Then, expenditure; see the way it has been growing. In this particular document which has been finalised by the National Development Council, they have estimated that, both from the Centre and from the States, the rate of growth of expenditure will be annually five per cent. I think, this calculation also is going to be totally wrong, if you take into account

[Prof. Madhu Dandavate]

the various impending projects, the various pressures on the coffers of the economy; and if you take that into account both at the Central level and at the State level, again you will find that this is an under-estimation that the annual rate of growth of expenditure in the country, of course non-plan expenditure, will be of the order of five per cent. Even that particular premise is going to be wrong.

The third premise is about poverty-line. A wrong assessment has been made that the number of people below the poverty-line will decline by five per cent by the end of the Century. That means, when our Prime Minister will be entering the Twenty-first Century, which he is very much aspiring for, he will find that, though it has been assessed that by the end of the Century the decline in the population living below the poverty-line will be five per cent, actually the number will not be satisfying that particular thing, and he will find that five per cent decline will not be there at all. That will also arise out of the fact that certain norms of poverty-line, estimation of people living below the poverty-line, are already misleading. I raised this question with the Prime Minister during the Question Hour the other day : "Are you carrying on with the same norms for estimating the poverty?" For instance, in the Seventies, the two famous economists, Mr. Dandekar and Mr. Rath said that, for the existence of human life, the minimum calorie intake should be 2,250 calories, and if we work out the money equivalent, it comes to Rs. 14.20 per capita per month. That was the norm proposed in the Seventies, Now the consumption patterns of the people have changed; the hygienic and health condition have changed. As a result of that, the old norm that was proposed in the Seventies would become rather obsolete as far as the present position of estimation of poverty is concerned. Therefore, I said it in a humorous way : Mr. Prime Minister, there are two ways of lifting the people above the poverty-line; one way is, try to improve their position, improve their purchasing capacity, improve their standard of living, improve their wages,

solve the problem of unemployment and as a result of that, people lift themselves above the poverty-line; and the second academic proposition is re-defining the poverty-line in such a way that the poverty-line itself is depressed and without Government doing anything, people are lifted above the poverty-line. I said it with a sense of humour, and as Bernard Shaw rightly said, "Sometimes humour reveals half-truth". Though I said it with a sense of humour,...

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Only half-truth, not full truth.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Not full truth; I agree. Therefore, I would like to point out to you that there is an element of truth in this also. Therefore, the time has come when there is a need for restructuring our entire methodology; for instance, constructing the price indices itself needs to be looked into. There was a Committee which tried to rationalise the structure of indices. The manner in which we have been measuring the rise in prices in this country is an absolute method. What is the basket, which are the commodities which are to be considered when we have to decide as to what is the present index, the wholesale as well as consumer, that methodology needs to be changed. Unfortunately, by not revising the methodology for assessing the price index and also for assessing the poverty-line in this country, probably by statistical jugglery we will be able to say by the end of the century that there will be 5% decline in the population living below the poverty line. But I don't think in terms of the new consumer pattern, in terms of the new human needs, in terms of the new ecological balance in the country, whatever estimate has been made, will not be much relevant.

I would like to strike another point regarding the basic goals which we have set during our freedom struggle. I am glad that whatever be the party in power and opposition, certain goals of planning were accepted as basic national goals of our Indian planning.

Self-reliance was one among them. In

this land of Gandhiji, decentralisation and narrowing down the economic disparities were accepted. We did not strive merely for growth. We never accepted Reaganomics. We strived constantly for more and more development, more and more standard of living for the affluent classes, more rate of growth, not worrying about the social justice. Along with growth we wanted that incomes and the wealth generated will if not have equal, at least have equitable distribution and therefore, social justice will be attended to.

This is the concept of the Planners and this is the concept that we have evolved during the freedom struggle. Even in the post independence years, whatever the political difference between the ruling party and the opposition, broadly it was accepted. Just as non-alignment is the national consensus, similarly self-reliance, decentralisation, growth with justice and reducing the economic and financial disparities including the disparities between the developed regions of India and the under developed regions of India were accepted as national goals of our country.

I am sorry to say Sir, that looking to the priorities, looking to the Plan, looking to the allocations and looking to the thrust of the Plan and not merely the slogan that has been actually rhetorically put the Plan, and also looking to the dwindling value of the rupee thereby reducing the investment quantum by back door, probably the goals of self-reliance, decentralisation of economy and economic power and also reducing the economic disparities between individuals and also from region to region are likely to be destroyed through these plans.

I will give a concrete instance. We have heard so much about the policy of the present Government regarding the imports and exports. This is one particular field and area in which we must try to find out what will happen to the national goal of self-reliance in the context of what the Chairman of the Planning Commission and Prime Minister of the country Shri Rajiv Gandhi has been saying in the public platform. Of course, sometimes he speaks in the beginning and then thinks about the problem. I would very

much like that he thinks first and then speaks. Unfortunately, probably the entire order has been topsy turved.

What did he say about the import and export strategy? I don't know who are the financial experts who are advising him. In one of the seminars on science and technology, he said that if we find that in our country the imports and import substitutions become very costly, it is better to liberalise the imports. When I raised that question, even the Finance Minister found it very difficult to interpret the mind of the Prime Minister. Because the Prime Minister on the spur of the moment made a political statement, Finance Minister was conscious of the financial and economical realities and, therefore, he tried to explain away the fallacy in the statement of the Prime Minister by saying that what the Prime Minister said is that if the import substitutions generated in the country are such that even to manufacture all the import substitutions, some of the inputs and raw-materials are actually to be imported from outside. In the true sense there would not be any indigenous import substitutions at all.

This is only covering up the contradictions in the Prime Minister's statement. I feel that the contradictions in the Prime Minister's statements are not merely the contradictions in his mind, but these are the contradictions in the policy of the Government. Therefore, I would warn that—not that we want outmoded technology in the country, we do want that we should be able to have more rationalised technology, we should be able to have quality production in the country, if we find that certain commodities are to be exported, in that case sophisticated technology would facilitate the process of producing better products which would be exported abroad and we should be able to mop up the foreign exchange resources. I realise that. But at the same time in this land where there is a large army of unemployed, where we have inadequacy of capital and where we have outmoded technology, for the rationalisation of which large investments will be required. We cannot accept the model as it exists in the western countries, or in the com-

munist countries or any other country for that matter and borrow the model from them and super-impose on the economy of the country. The borrowed model in this land of Gandhi—I am referring to Mahatma Gandhi—will not work at all. Therefore, I feel in this country a balance between the technology and man has to be achieved. We want to modernise our machinery. We want to modernise our industry but our search for modernisation should not reach heights that at that stage there will be more displacement of labour as it is going to happen in the case of textiles. I told you if a suzler loom is inducted into the spinning Department of a textile mill the work which can be done in the spinning Department by 500 men can be done by 20 persons and out of every 500 four hundred and eighty will be thrown out of the job. We do not want such a machine where a human being becomes a debris. We want the glory of the machine but we do not want the glory of the machine to be built on the debris and dignity of the man. This has been the consistent point of view of this land of Mahatma Gandhi. That is the direction to the economic thinking of the country and some of us you may call us orthodox; you may call us outmoded but we still cling to this particular aspect which is rooted in the soil of this land and, therefore, that particular course has to be adopted but that is being rejected today. The export and import strategy will ultimately land into lot of trouble. As a result of that what is happening. Already from April to July the trade gap has extended to Rs. 3000 crores and, I am afraid, if this process continued the trade deficit will increase still and we will be in further crisis.

Now, I came to the aspect of anti-poverty measures. We want certain minimum requirements to be met in our country. Our priority is that. Coloured television is not my priority. My priority is that villages—which are problem villages—which go without drinking water must get drinking water. The kisans must be able to get remunerative prices. They must be able to get cheap fertilisers and seeds. There must be cottage and small scale industries in decentralised manner where rural people will be able to find

better employment and, therefore, I have attacked the textile policy. It will add to the detriment of handlooms and powerlooms—the decentralised sector. If anti-poverty measures are to be successful this has to be attended to. In the present document what is the total allocation? The outlay is Rs. 11,500 crores. It is too inadequate and, therefore, it has to be augmented and also the infra-structural facilities like railways, shipping and so many other things in order to bring about development of the backward regions of the country. Just as we have to reduce the economic disparity between man and man we are also to reduce the economic disparity between region and region. The metropolitan cities like Bombay, Calcutta, Hyderabad, Delhi, etc. are facing problems of great congestion, pollution and health hazards are being created. You cannot just have a ban that on a particular date nobody should enter Bombay and Delhi. Counter-magnets have to be created far beyond these lands. If hinterlands of these metropolitan cities have to be developed there should be infra-structure of railways which will be able to give better development in the hinterlands. Then congestion in the cities and pollution in the cities can be reduced. I do not find there is stress on that. There is only a cursory reference to the development of backward regions. I do not think that problem has been effectively attended to.

Sir, in one word I will tell you what is the development perspective of this 'Gandhi'. I said this on the previous occasion. This new 'Gandhi' has put the old Gandhi on his head. Old Gandhi said let us have projects of development at grass root and development should start from bottom and it must bring up. The new development perspective of Rajiv Gandhi's government seems to be the same perspective of Reagan government. Let us not worry about social justice aspect now. Let us concentrate on developments for the upper strata of society and what will be the gains for lower society, the poverty stricken people should stand with a begging bowl in their hands at the grass root level and whatever percolates down from the top to bottom, that will be a development for the poor. We do not

want the poor to be reduced to destitute and bowl carriers. Therefore, the entire developmental strategy will have to be this strategy. It should not be development at the top and percolation down to the bottom. I do not accept it. For that, certain structural changes should be necessary.

Sir, in regard to the mopping up of resources, I am glad that there are raids in the big industrial houses. Those who have resorted to irregularities, they must be taken to task. You should utilise all these raids and stringent fiscal measures to extract the black money and utilise them for constructive and productive channel. *(Interruptions)* I have correctly suggested that unless you are able to take radical measures, where demonetisation of currency is to start from hundred rupees onwards, you will not be able to touch the fringe of the problem, as far as black money is concerned. Countries like Belgium did that right from 500 francs onwards. They actually demonetised the currency and within a few months they were able to contract black money currency to less than half. This is what happened there. But this is not happening here. I would like the raids to be conducted whether they are smugglers or black money-holders to pick out that money. But don't utilise it as a lever to extract donations. If you have Centenary and you tell some industrial houses "if you don't contribute to the Centenary fund, in that case you are in for trouble." *(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER : Sir, he can't talk like that. I object to this. This should be expunged. *(Interruptions)*

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You go through the records. I have not referred to any political party. You check the records.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will go through the records. If there is anything to be expunged, I will expunge.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have not mentioned the name of any political parties. *(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have

already told you that if there is anything objectionable, I will expunge it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Sir, what he said was objectionable.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please take your seat, Mr. Panika.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : During the Janata regime, what happened? They did not do any new planning. They had rolling Plan. *(Interruptions)*

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have not referred to any political party. Why do you feel that the cap fits you? You check the records. *(Interruptions)*

PROF. N. G. RANGA : One would have expected Mr. Dandavate to have a sense of decency as well as decorum. When you utter the word 'Centenary' you certainly had the Congress Centenary in your mind. There is no other Centenary. Therefore, it is not befitting you that you should make a reference like this.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : You have not completed hundred years. A young girl of 17 years old cannot claim that she is hundred years old. I am not referring to your party because your party is only 17 years old. *(Interruptions)* How can I refer to their Centenary?

PROF. N.G. RANGA : What do you mean by 17 years.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Yes, Congress—I is 17 years old.

PROF. N G. RANGA : You are talking about the history. You are also a student of History. Considering the position that you hold as a leader of your party, with all your seniority, is it fair for you to say this. It is improper.

(Interruptions)

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: There is no question of withdrawal. I will withdraw from the Parliament. But I will not

withdraw my word. I have not referred to any political party. *(Interruptions)*. You can refer this to the Speaker.

If you go through the debates of the House of Commons you will find that the Opposition Labour Party attacked the Conservative Government with the strongest language to which they were not accustomed and so did the Conservative MPs when they attacked the Labour Government.

Even when we are attacked we have faced that. We have never objected that you cannot criticise. In the most strongest possible language they had attacked Janta Government. I had never objected to that...*(Interruptions)* I shall quote to any number of parliamentary precedents in parliamentary debates of making severe criticism. It has been made against the Janta Party; it has been made against the Congress Party; it has been made against the Communist Party. Nobody has objected to that...*(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER : He should withdraw his remarks.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have not used any unparliamentary language. There is no question of withdrawing any remarks .*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have already told you that I will go through the record. If there is anything objectionable, I will expunge it. Please take your seat.

Now, wind up Prof Dandavate.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I will give you a concrete instance. While I am myself demanding that there should be raids to bring out black money which exists in the country; have raids, have raids, have demonetization, have the strictest measures, but what I am trying to say is that in doing that see that the officers concerned or the Departments concerned do not cross their limits. Let me go on record. I am giving you one concrete instance. I challenge, let the Minister come forward with a categorical

statement. I will repeat again before giving that instance, that I want all the black money to be extracted...*(Interruptions)*. I am giving you the concrete instance of the raid on the business houses of Kirloskars. One officer of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence goes there and he says : "Certain cars are carrying certain files from your company". They say that they have not get these cars. He calls the officer and the officer tells him that that these cars are not there: they gave fictitious car numbers in order to deter and threaten these people. This has given a handle to the industrialist. If you want to raid the industrial houses, do it in a proper and legal way and not in a fraudulent way. I am only giving you an instance, how the officers are behaving.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : His remarks about the Congress Party should expunged.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I have not referred to Congress Party.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : Now, the cat is out of the bag. The hon. Member wanted to support Kirloskars and his black money.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Not at all. I am demanding that all black money holders should be raided, but in doing that, do not cross your limits. I just now gave you the concrete instance how certain cars were carrying some of their files from the company, and later on the officer told that he had given the fictitious car numbers.

AN HON. MEMBER : How much money had been paid by Kirloskars to Janta Party ? ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : This sort of politics will not affect me. They can abuse Janta Party to their heart's content...*(Interruptions)*.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please wind up; you have already taken thirty-five minutes ...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Even

if there is one Member in the House, he has the right to say his views. Acharya Kriplani was one single individual Member in this House. Nobody told him that he was a single independent Member in this House and that he had no strength behind him. He said : "I am speaking out my mind & nobody can stop me." He was a senior Member of this House. In democracy, it is not the theory of numbers, it is the theory of arguments.

Therefore, in the end I have to make a concrete suggestion. In order that our national goals of planning could be fulfilled, certain structural changes are necessary. And I am the one who believe that in this country we should take note of the fact that even in developed capitalist countries, there is no equality. Even in some of the Communist countries there are disparities. But in the Scandanavian countries, where the cooperative movement has succeeded to a very great extent, there is no disparity. Gandhiji always stood for a strong and healthy cooperative tradition. When a healthy cooperative movement grows, not only there will be incentive for production, but there will be more equitable distribution and economic disparity in this country can be reduced to a very great extent. This one aspect which is neglected to a great extent in the entire plan terminology. That should be reviewed and corrected. But as I told you earlier, everything has been completed. I began my saying that the last ritual of getting the plan approved by the National Development Council, even that has been completed. Whatever we have said, it will only go as a part of the record to find out in the future how your strategy went wrong.

13.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after lunch at Fourteen of the clock.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MOTION RE : "SEVENTH FIVE YEAR PLAN, 1985-90," Contd.

[*Translation*]

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhunjharpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, before lunch the leader of the opposition was very much perturbed. He started sweating. I appeal to him not to be agitated so much. I feel that he is ill, otherwise he should not have become so agitated. Now, I come to the subject... (*Interruptions*)

The three main features of the Seventh Five Year Plan *inter-alia* are. (1) removal of poverty; (2) removal of unemployment; and (3) removal of regional imbalance. In my opinion maximum stress should be laid on removal of unemployment. I do not know your views in this regard. About 100 to 150 persons from my constituency come to me daily and ask for help in getting employment. I find myself in a strange situation as to how I will be able to provide employment to so many persons. This problem is assuming alarming proportion.

The number of unemployed persons will increase manifold as compared to the number of persons proposed to be provided employment during the Seventh Five Year Plan. Hence, this problem is required to be looked into very seriously. I would request you to lay maximum stress on the removal of unemployment. If this problem is not solved, none of us would be able to check the increasing resentment among the youths and our democracy would be jeopardised.

I am saying it in all sincerity that unemployment problem is becoming very acute and it should be solved as soon as possible. If this problem is solved, the problem of poverty would automatically be solved. An employed person will feed a family of 10 members and the problem of poverty will automatically be solved.

Our hon. Members became perturbed on account of the raids conducted against certain persons. I had stated in this House earlier also that Government had spent a lot but its benefit had not reached the people.

I had referred to the well-known theory of L/4 scheme, i.e. the money spent is loot which is appropriated by 4 persons i.e.

the engineers, contractors, politicians and bureaucrats.

SHRI D. P. YADAVA : I do not agree so far as politicians are concerned.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : I am not saying this thing about all the politicians.

I would like to say that if raids are to be conducted, they should be conducted against all those persons who are suspects in the eyes of Government. Nobody should be spared. I say that raid should be conducted against me also. There is a famous saying—

*Kabira khada bazar main, liye lukathi hath.
jo ghar phoonke aapna, chale hamare
saath.*

People are not getting the benefit of the amount being spent on development works. You only ensure that people get the benefit of the amount spent on development works.

In this context I would like to narrate a very interesting thing. I received my education in U.S.A. Recently, I visited U.S.S.R I saw that communes get matching grants from the Government. It opened my eyes. Nehru ji used to say and today Rajiv ji also says that the planning and economic development being made in the country is Indian. It is consonance with Indian environment. Our country should follow their example.

I see that people do not feel involved with the planning; they feel it is the job of the B.D.O. and he will disburse the amount. If there is public involvement in the planning, it will prove a success. Without their involvement, nothing is going to happen even if academic discussions take place here.

Recently, Rajiv ji referred to the Ganga Plan. Ganga will be cleaned. The people of the area should come forward for voluntary labour. Nothing can be better than this. People should be involved in development in the form of Voluntary labour. We have got this experience during voluntary labour in the Kosi Project

in Bihar. People will come to know thereby that they are part and parcel of this project. If people take interest, they will not allow continuation of L/4 system. We have to create feelings among the people that the planning is for their interest. It is not the responsibility of Government alone, stress should be laid on public participation also.

Today, we see that many mills of National Textile Corporation are laying closed. Do whatever you like, but you will not be able to review these sick mills. We are in favour of the public sector and we want the public sector to grow because the question of the livelihood of thousands of persons is linked with it. The public sector is running at a loss. You should see to it. I would like to tell you a very interesting thing. Some sugar mills were running at a loss in Bihar. When they were taken over by the Sugar Corporation, their losses increased. I would like to say taking over such sugar factories is of no use. In a State, The Transport Corporation sold a bus itself as scrap. The Public sector is a very good sector. You should keep a watch on the persons who manage its affairs. They have pocketed money worth crores of rupees.

Shrimati Krishna Sahi : State Transport suffers losses.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS : State Transport suffers losses, but the Managing Director is becoming richer. State Transport should continue to function because investment made in the public sector is our own.

Now, I would like to say something about regional imbalance. Much stress has been laid on it this plan. I feel very much depressed when I think about North Bihar where there is abject poverty. Where will these poor people go? The people of that area go to Punjab and Haryana to work as agricultural labour. It is heard that new technique is proposed to be adopted there now due to which they will be rendered jobless. Where will those poor people go after all? This matter should be looked into seriously. This backward area remains waterlogged for 6 months in a year. During the remaining 6 months they cultivate their land. They go to other parts of the country to earn their

livelihood. Now, in other parts mechanical equipments are proposed to be pressed into service, due to which they are likely to be rendered jobless. Therefore, you should look into this matter seriously.

Despite huge natural wealth, Bihar is a backward state. What are the reasons therefor? You should go into those reasons seriously. There is definitely some cause which hinders our progress. We should find out those reasons and do something for the development of Bihar. North Bihar is still more backward. The condition of roads there is very bad. You claim that you have made agricultural development. Does an agriculturist get remunerative price? The poor fellow, however, makes arrangements for seeds, fertilizers and irrigation, but he gets very low price for his produce due to which his condition has become worst. Today in Bihar, Bengal and Assam, jute crisis has assumed alarming proportion. The grower invested huge amount in its cultivation, but later on he was ruined. Will the country be run like this? You give this matter a patient consideration sometime. You talk about increasing agricultural production, but you are not prepared to pay the agriculturists remunerative price for that.

The situation is not confined to jute alone. The same is true about sugarcane and paddy as well. Where will then the poor people go. It seems that you want to throw us into Brahmaputra. We should give it a serious consideration. *(Interruptions)...*

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI (Mand-saur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, he is Rajhans, he will be thrown into the ganga, he will taken to the Mansarovar... *(Interruptions)*

DR. G.S. RAJHANS : What I am saying is that our plan should be practical. Uranium is produced in Bihar. You should generate power from atomic energy in North Bihar. A number of industries can be set up there and the people would

get employment. Mango is produced there in abundance and it sells at throw away prices. You set up agro-based industries there and export the product. You must do something so that the people could know that you are doing something for them, otherwise the people will continue to say that you are not paying attention to backward States and that the regional imbalance was increasing.

On the one hand you see that the people are groaning under the impact of poverty. I go by the statistics. I also know a bit of economics. If you want, I can prove this all with figures. You can prove through statistics whatever you want. But you accompany me to the market and see for yourself how the prices are soaring. You daily announce on Radio and Television that whosoever weighs the carton with the sweet will be punished. How many persons have been jailed on this account? The price of sweets touched Rs. 50 per Kilogram during Diwali. I have purchased myself... *(Interruptions)* No it was not cashewnut burfee. Who can dare to take action against them.

Therefore, I shall urge you to let improvement in true sense take place in the condition of the country. Similar to your policy of non-alignment is your economic policy, neither are we pro rich nor pro poor. We are pro big industrialists.

We should bring prosperity to the country by raising efficiency, by effecting economy and by raising the scale of production. I congratulate the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Finance Minister that they have caught the big sharks. Keep it up. The good wishes of the entire nation are with you. I say that the country is bigger than an individual. We have to take the nation forward because this is the first time that a climate has been created in the country in which the people are thinking that a clean government has come into power. We should not give the countrymen an opportunity to say that our deeds are different from what we profess. This Five Year Plan has a great responsibility.

[Dr. G.S. Rajhans]

The hon. Minister of Planning has said that our suggestions would be incorporated in the plan. In view thereof, I would request that there should be a debate every year on the progress of the Five Year Plan so that we could assess the progress achieved in each state, otherwise this Five Year Plan would become meaningless.

[English]

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I would like to express my appreciation of the manner in which our Prime Minister has presented the Government's case for this Five Year Plan. I am entirely in agreement with him, but it is not enough. Some other additional aspects of the planning also have to be kept in mind very prominently by the planners and then, later on by the Government here and by the Governments at the State level.

Too much attention is being paid to what are known as "Private Sector and Public Sector". But they too alone are not the two aspects of our economy in our country. It is high time now that our Government as well as the nation would realise the need for espying the importance of what is known as self-employed sector and cooperative sector. Only today the Cooperative Congress is meeting in Delhi. Their President has drawn our attention to the fact that there are as many as 120 million members in the cooperatives all over India. Even if we take only 60 million as active members, that is a considerable section of our population. They are interested in production and distribution. They should be given sufficient attention by the Planning Commission much more than what has been done till now. Then there are self employed people in our country including the cooperators and others. You know that except for a small fringe of the farmers who own more than 10 acres of land, all the rest of them are self-employed. They employ hired labour occasionally and that too in small numbers. Theirs is a non-exploitative sector. They should also be treated as a separate

sector. Peasants and artisans are forming a major portion of the self-employed people working in the self-employed sector. If we espy these two sectors with equal importance with those employed in the so-called private sector i.e. large scale and medium scale industries that is corporate sector and the public sector where all the industrial concerns are being managed, owned and supervised by the Government in one way or the other, then the whole attitude of the Planning Commission as well as the Government will come to be different in distributing our national resources in regard to expenditure and income also. These self-employed people are not exploiters as such. When we achieve complete socialism in a democratic society and make it possible for all workers to be free from exploitation, they will achieve self-employed status. They would be employing themselves as in Yugoslavia with three partners inside-the workers, the Government and local governmental unit. There was not that kind of socio-economic status was there during the period of Marx, Lenin and other socialists of the west. Some of them called themselves as socialists, others called themselves as communists and so on. They were hoping to achieve a status like that for all proletariat. But in the meanwhile they found these capitalists being in the control of the whole of the industrial sector of the west. Therefore, they wanted to get rid of them. In order to get rid of them, they found so many ways of approach and one of them was Russian approach-capture power for the proletariat and in the name of proletariat and have their dictatorship and then achieve all these freedom for workes according to their priority.

If we were to have that kind of a plan, we could certainly limit our population more effectively and more easily as they are doing now in China. If we were to do work in that way, we could manage and control everybody and everything. But Russians themselves have found it not so very progressive. Therefore, they are resiling from that experiment of dictatorship. In our democracy we have distributed power among ourselves. We see that even erstwhile Jana Sangh people also would come to profess socialism. Com-

munalists would also come to say that they are socialists. So, all of us have become socialists. What does it mean? When we come to brass tacks what would it mean so far as people are concerned? That is why, this 20 Point Programme was conceived. That is how the socialist approach was placed before us in an economic and political manner by Indiraji. But this minor approach is only the child of the general approach of Service to Daridra Narayan that Mahatma Gandhi placed before the whole country. For two generations we have all accepted it. There is no difference amongst ourselves. There are Opposition parties in power in different States in our country. They are busy in implementing these points. In the implementation, they differ with one another, they go on competing with one another. We welcome that kind of competition. In one State they do it in some direction and in some other State they do it in some other direction, but nevertheless they are all bound to this kind of a programme. This is the programme for which the Planning Commission has prepared their Plan. It has got to be time-bound. Therefore, they have made it for five years. There is no doubt whatsoever that we have to make it more progressive but we would have been able to make greater progress with less trouble if only we had agreed from the very beginning or if we agree even now to treat these two sections of people as belonging to two different additional sectors and then think of providing capital and other resources which are at the disposal of the States. Therefore, it is high time now for the Planning Commission to reorganise their own priorities in this manner—public sector, private or corporate sector, self-employed sector and cooperative sector. There was a time, not so long ago, when the Avadi Congress declared itself to be in favour of a socialist democratic country when right from Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru to all those of us who are also socialists, said that we wanted to establish a cooperative Commonwealth. Therefore, let us hark back to that concept of cooperative socialist country which should be democratic.

And once it is democratic, there are certain limitations also. We have to

carry all people with us. It is not good for different political parties to go on vying with each other and then arguing with each other over the manner in which the objective is to be achieved. What is our objective? Our objective is to move towards the abolition of poverty and this Plan aims at achieving this objective to the tune of 75 per cent of the population. At the end of this plan, there would still be 25 per cent of the population which would be below the poverty line. Who is responsible for it? Everybody is responsible for it. Who would be praised and who would be upheld? If the Opposition parties, wherever they are in power, are able to implement this particular Plan in so effective a manner that they would be able to make inroads even in to these 25 per cent of poor people and help more and more of them to rise above poverty line, nobody would take any objection to that. Similarly, our party also would have to make these efforts. And in making these efforts, cooperative approach is the best and it should be helped in every possible manner. Indeed, the Planning Commission has realised the importance of self-employment. But most unfortunately they have started it at the wrong end, that is, they have begun to treat only educated people—engineers, doctors and industrially trained people—as self-employed people. They want help to them to start small industrial units and so on. So far so good, but that is not enough. You have already got the self-employed masses. Millions and millions of them are there in every State, except in North-Eastern States where they are only a few millions. Therefore, this has got to be kept very prominently in their mind by our planners as well as by our Government.

Now I come to the other point. How are we to deal with all these self-employed people? There should be lesser controls. The Government should drop as many of these licences and controls and permit and all such things. This is exactly what I have been fighting for. The Control licence, permit raj, as it was nicely phrased by Poojya Raja Ji of the past. Lesser the controls, the greater would be the production and greater would be the initiative. Now, why do we not want

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controls? Who are going to implement these controls? Not many of the Members of Parliament or Legislators in the Legislatures and the Ministers, Now, it is the Government administrative officers. It is not even the administrative officers as officers. It is the clerks and the superintendents and just one or two higher cadres. We know that they are not all honest. Large numbers of them are not public spirited and too many of them are forgetful of their duty towards society and towards Government. And neither Ministers nor these highly placed officers have gained sufficient control over them. Who can control them? The ordinary people have got to control them, but they have got to be helped by voluntary organisations. It is where I appreciate the readiness with which our Prime Minister has gone the other day to their Conference to encourage the non-official voluntary organisations to come to the field and buttress our Administration and buttress our Government as a whole.

I agree with my hon. friend from Bihar who has just spoken. Unless we seek the cooperation of the people and win their cooperation and help them to behave themselves properly, nothing can be done. In their own villages Panchayats, cooperatives, voluntary organisations can be themselves honest at their end and then help people to deal with this administration. All these clerks and other people of our administration at the bottom four or five rungs have to be dealt with. Unless we do it, we would not be able to achieve real results as per the wishes of our planners and of our Government. That is why I am extremely anxious that we should revive our enthusiasm for what was known as Bharat Sevak Samaj which we used to have. It is a great pity that Gandhi Peace Mission was brought into political controversy. Such other organisations, as the Royal Seema Seva Sangh (RSS) and several other organisations have to be organised in increasing numbers in our country. Those who will be organising them have got to be encouraged. As a result of our political controversies unfortunately several of them have been troubled.

Strengthened as we would be with these organisations, we would have moved towards elementary education. I am not satisfied with this Plan so far as elementary education is concerned. The elementary education has got two aspects: One is formal and the other is non-formal. Non-formal education can be developed very quickly with the help of broadcasting Radio and T.V. provided they place radio and TV sets also at the disposal of the Village Panchayats and Cooperative Societies which we are organising in our villages and also at the Fair Price Shops. Then people will go there. They will become what is known as Shruta Panditah. They will become learned by hearing so many of these educational programmes that are broadcast on the radio. Similarly through the TV telecast they will become what is known as Drishya Panditah. This kind of traditional learning we also had already for a very long time. We have got to modernise it with these new machines and we should be able to lay special stress on that aspect.

So many people go on complaining there are schools with only one teacher. I would like to have schools with one teacher rather than having no school at all. So many of us were brought up in the educational field when we were little children where there was only one teacher. Therefore, let us not decry that approach. Then they want big buildings. Where is the need for big buildings in all places. During the first five post war years Europe did not have all equipment they wanted even at the university stage. So also here we must be prepared to get on, encourage our people to have schools, if need be under the Banyan trees, under Payaals, everywhere and anywhere, wherever there can be some public open space with some shelter, but we should have schools even with one teacher, if we cannot afford to have more teachers. Surely there are plenty of educated people who are unemployed. We can make an appeal from the podium of the Prime Ministership and also of the Chief Ministership to all these educated unemployed people to come forward and offer themselves as primary school teachers with the promise that if and when we are

in a position to find sufficient funds, we would be able to make them permanent teachers, then I am sure lakhs and lakhs of them would be available for us and with them we would be able to make much more rapid progress in the sphere of elementary education than is proposed by our planners at present.

The same thing applies to housing also. We do not want costly houses. Surely in towns we should have cement bound buildings so that they would not fall and kill too many people. But in the villages, we can live in huts with *thattis* strengthened by mud packing. Mud can be churned into gunny paste as we used to do in the past by our cattle. With that mud itself, we can raise walls and even with unburnt bricks we can build walls, where possible with burnt bricks and with cement roofs we can carry on. Cement should be the last element. But now everybody wants to depend upon cement alone. But there is not enough of cement to go round and therefore, planners simply say we cannot provide housing for our masses within these plan periods.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Prof. Ranga, even when we are using cement nowadays what is happening is that the existing buildings collapse. Therefore, with the sort of mud and other things you can understand what will happen.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : I know, even the *thattis* huts are also collapsing. Yet, people are alive even in Madras city itself. In fact, in the whole of Tamil Nadu, in the whole of Andhra, we have mostly *thattis* bound and for mud walled houses for the poor.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No, that depends on how the people are constructing.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : People are not dying. Once they see that the rain is coming, they simply get out of the thatched houses and find some shelter, but we must first make a start. After all, what is the use of going on waiting until we have big halls like this ? And at the same time we don't do anything with the labour of the unemployed people.

We were talking about human dignity. My friend, Mr. Dandavate referred to it and the Prime Minister also was talking about it, and Indiraji used to talk about the quality of life. Quality of life can be raised in the minds of the people when their sense of self-respect and dignity goes up. That will go up once a man become literate. Supposing your father or my father had been a literate man, he would have given us greater push when we were little children. But when the father is illiterate, he becomes depressed, and then he becomes a dwarf intellectually, he is not able to give as much push and as much encouragement to his children. That uppish sense of self respect is what is needed today in our country. Therefore, the highest possible priority should be given to literacy. How can we achieve literacy ? Russia achieved it, China achieved it in ten years and that was the reason why we people who were working in the Constituent Assembly were hoping to be able to enthuse the masses in our country and win their cooperation and achieve only anti-illiteracy here in our country within ten years. But once we came into power, we became mad after power, we forgot so many of these things and people also lost their interest in the manner in which we were advising them to work collectively for social progress because they said to themselves, 'Well, here is the Government which is to do everything for themselves. Therefore, why bother ?' Unfortunately, perhaps Mahatma Gandhi died at the wrong moment. If he had only been alive, things would have been different. But what is the use now ? Then Indiraji also has passed away into the realm of god to bemoan that irreparable loss. Now we are left to look after ourselves. Therefore, I make this appeal to the planners as well as the Government as well as the governments in the States and to the people as a whole to look at these things from the people's end. What is it we can do ? That is where, Sir, I pay special tribute to Indiraji for having introduced a special Chapter in our Constitution on the duties of a citizen in our country. So many people go on insisting upon Fundamental Rights. About Directive Principles so many people go on harping. But they don't talk about the Chapter on citizens' duties. Let us pro-

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pagate these duties of citizens and win the cooperation of the masses. In this process I want the wholehearted cooperation of all political parties, not only in the kind of attenuated strength in which people have thought it fit to send them here, but in the strength by which they have given them the votes. It is not these numbers that these people represent. It is the numbers of all those people standing in their name whom they represent. So also is the case with us. We have got to win the cooperation of all our masses. How can we win their cooperation? Let us compete with each other. Let the Congress Party compete with all these Opposition Parties inside the House as well as outside the House in winning cooperation of the masses, in making these programmes successful. These programmes should include housing and elementary education.

Then, there is drinking water. Somebody was saying that there were so many villages without drinking water. Things have improved very much now. There are certain States where drinking water is available in almost every village. In some States, the percentage of the villages having drinking water has gone up. These villagers also live without safe drinking water. They learn to live. We should win their cooperation and give them all help to have bore wells as well as ordinary wells also. Best water, we may not however be able to give them for some time.

We are talking about pollution. I agree that we must carry on the anti-pollution campaign. At the same time, all these years, crores of people have been taking water and keeping themselves alive. The Ganges water at Banaras itself is polluted. People who drank that water did not die. There is a way of living. We would have to learn to live with such things. But we must help them to have safe drinking water as soon as possible. Therefore, highest possible priority should be given to drinking water.

Then, I come to communication. Take Northeastern States. I gave a note the other day to our Planning Minister, to the Finance Minister and also to the Railway

Minister. There are State capitals and cities which are not connected by Railways, what to talk of our villages there. Can we be satisfied with ourselves with this state of things. And yet, our dissatisfaction must be creative. Therefore, I appeal to the Railway people to give highest possible priority for that also.

Similarly, let us come to roads. Where are the roads in many areas. We must build, by all means, bridges on the rivers, nullahs and huge big rivulets. Let private people come forward, let contractors come forward to build a bridge and then charge a toll on all motor vehicles passing over the bridge over a period of 5 years or 10 years. The Americans have made that experiment. The Canadians have done that, with a very good result. Why do we not make such efforts? In this creative and constructive manner, we have got to provide these things. Otherwise, it would be very difficult to make rapid progress.

Then, there is Panchayati Raj. My hon. friend Dandavate has said that from the grassroot we should come up. Yes, we should. There is no difference of opinion between us. We only disagree for the sake of politics. Panchayati Raj must be made a success. Why is it not a success now, because so many people are suffering from caste consciousness—upper caste consciousness and the depressed class people suffer from their own sense of depression. That is where social justice has got to be helped to come into its own. That is exactly where Jayaprakashji and myself were in agreement. There should not be majority or minority regimes in the Panchayati Raj. We should choose the leadership of the Panchayati Raj by combining election process in electing a panel of eligible candidates and then choosing one half and 2/3 of them by drawing lots. Out of those 25 eligible candidates you can select 15 persons. Out of these 15, you just set aside 5 places for Backward, Harijans or tribal peoples.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :
Prof. Ranga, it is a good system. In that case, booth capturing will be eliminated.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : Even then also, there will be booth capturing because our

people are not always gods. Sometimes, they will play mischief. Anyhow, we have got to take necessary precautions to prevent that also.

But, we must minimise the mischief of our present practice majority rule. One vote majority is a tyranny. This is not the time for me to suggest it for Assemblies and Parliaments. But certainly for cooperatives and village panchayats, we should have that kind of a system.

We have also got to do some social work as Members of Parliament and other legislators to educate our masses. We must learn to treat the Harijans, the tribal people and the backward people as human beings. We are not treating them properly. In order to do this, Planning Commission has got to devise some way by which they can possibly encourage the existing as well as future voluntary organisations.

Finally, take the question of human dignity about which we are talking, the quality of life. What was it that the DMK has placed before itself? What for Shri E.V. Ramaswamy Naicker was fighting? What for did Shri Veeresalingam and other social reformers fought? Even though all our society, the whole lot of our people, are divided by our castes and by our religions and all such things, we must learn to treat each other as human beings, as equals. We do not do it. We talk of our culture, the hoary past and all the rest of it. There is so much of dross. We have got to dismiss it. There is certainly so much of gold in our cultural heritage. We must discover it. Once we get that gold, we must treasure it. That is what exactly our philosophers have placed before us. Let me come to Planning Commission. They should try, with the help of the University Grants Commission and all the 120 Universities that we have here among us, to help our people to behave as self respecting human beings towards each other and treat every human-being as something precious, as precious as God himself and even more so, if it is possible.

SHRI KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN (Tirunelveli): Mr. Deputy Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity given to me

to participate in the Seventh Five Year Plan discussion. With a very good base of success in the rate of growth in the Sixth Plan, we are entering into the Seventh Plan to form a new India by 2000 AD.

The rate of growth of 5.02% achieved by us in the Sixth Plan shows our mobility of sources and the capability of machinery to use the available sources properly and achieve the target.

At this juncture, our learned Prof. Rangaji pictured to us what is India today and what was India. At the same time, we pass on from the first to the Seventh Plan. The main success of our Plan will be the family planning.

PROF. MADHU DANAVATE : That is not five year planning.

SHRI KADAMBUR JANARTHANAN : That is not. But as Tamilnadu stands first in family planning, I am proud to say that.

Let us hope that our target rate of growth of 5% should be achieved in Seventh Plan also. In accordance with the proverb, a work well begun is half done. Let us hope for the best.

Development of plans is not only in factories, dams and roads but development is basically about people. That is what Gandhiji also told us.

Since the first two objectives are still there even after six plans have passed, the planning benefits should reach the hands of the people. At least in the Seventh Plan, we must see that it reaches the hands of the people.

The important objective to be welcomed in the Seventh Plan is the allocation of 30-per cent of the total outlay for public sector energy. Production of adequate amount of energy alone will be the base of success of the Seventh Plan. So, this allocation of 30 per cent of the outlay for energy in public sector is a very well planned objective in the Seventh Plan. Following this, we have to welcome

[Shri Kadambur Janarthanan]

the per capita targets in the Seventh Plan: the per capita income which is now Rs. 2,616 is to be raised to Rs. 3,207 by 1989-90; the per capita consumption of food-grains which today is 178 kgs is to be raised to 193 kgs; the per capita consumption of cloth which is now 16.6 metres is to be raised to 17.85 metres; the per capita consumption of power which is now 226 kilowatts is to be raised to 362 kilowatts; and bringing down the percentage of people below the povertyline from 37 per cent to 26 per cent. If the two targets of per capita income and per capita consumption of power are achieved, then the Seventh Plan will become a plan of people's prosperity.

Looking back all these decades, we must be proud that our poor peasants have done their job with tolerance and cooperation. It is the farmers of our country who have raised our food production which was only 50.8 million in 1950-51 to nearly 150 million tonnes in 1984-85. But many of our peasants are still struggling for their food and shelter. As Prof. Ranga mentioned, they toiled and increased our food production three times what it was at the time of independence, making use of the schemes under Central and State Governments, and we have a comfortable position in regard to food today. Even big Communist countries are buying American wheat, but we are self-sufficient in food, and we are self-sufficient in food because of the contributions made by the kisans of our country. It is Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri who gave us the slogans 'Jai Kisan' and 'Jai Jawan'. Our kisans have done very well and we cannot forget their contribution to this country. But what have we done for the poor farmers? What is the outlay for Agriculture in the Seventh Plan? It is only Rs. 10,573.62 crores whereas in the Sixth Plan on the expenditure side it was Rs. 7,318 crores. In the Sixth Plan, the public sector got Rs. 97,500 crores. But in the Seventh Plan, the outlay for the public sector is Rs. 1,80,000 crores. In the same ratio, the outlay for Agriculture in the Seventh Plan should have been not less than Rs. 15,000 crores. If the Government does not come forward with this money, they will not be doing justice to the poor kisans who have

raised the agricultural production in this country. At this juncture I must say that the benefits of the IRDP, NREP and RLEGP schemes have not reached the poor peasants because of the bureaucratic administration. Whatever plans we may make in Parliament, it is the IAS officers who have to implement these. In the British period we had ICS officers, now we have the Indian Administrative Service. But those officers think that they are the 'Indian Administrative Superiors' to all. That attitude should change. The politicians may be making plans and programmes, but only if the bureaucrats change their attitude, will planning become a success.

I was speaking about the outlay for Agriculture. We have not allotted the due amount for our Agriculture for the poor kisans. The outlay given for Agriculture in the Seventh Plan is quite inadequate. It should be not less than Rs. 15,000 crores.

Coming to crop insurance, till 1984, we had brought 6,92,000 hectares of land under crop insurance. In the whole of India we have 143 million hectares of land under the plough. The crop insurance scheme is not at all encouraging for our kisans.

As the proverb goes, Indian budget is a gamble of monsoons. It was well said by Prof. Dandavateji. Yesterday also our Hon. Prime Minister told about the havoc of monsoon. The crop insurance should come to the rescue of the Kisans for their welfare. At least 25% of the crops of the whole India should be brought under the crop insurance. The crop insurance should be made not only for the foodgrains but it should be made for cereals, cotton and other crops also. Then only the Kisans will be encouraged and the 7th Five Year Plan will be a successful one to form a new great India in 2000 AD.

To face all the unexpected calamities to the crops of agricultural produce, the scope of the crop insurance should be expanded considerably. At least 25% of the total area under cultivation should come under this.

Priority should be given to dry land farming and hill side farming in accordance with the environmental position, created during each monsoon.

Cotton production should be encouraged because it is the only agro-based material which is completely used in textile industry. No other agro-based product is entirely used by the industry. So, cotton production should be given as much importance as food production. An agro-based product which is entirely used by the industry is cotton.

Regarding industrial growth, we wish that we achieve the Plan's target of 8%.

I am sorry to state that in Tamil Nadu, for the Salem Steel Plant the amount allotted is not in proportion to the amounts allotted to the steel plants like Bhilai, Rourkela and Bokaro. I request the hon. Minister to allot more funds for this steel plant.

Still we are short of fertilisers. But all the six units to be constructed in the 7th Plan are in the northern States. There is no single unit in the Southern states. This is a matter of great imbalance to the Kisans of the south.

Since 1967 there is no Central Government sponsored heavy industry installed in Tamil Nadu. I request the dynamic Prime Minister to sanction the Sethusamudram project for Tamil Nadu. It is a long pending plea of the people of Tamil Nadu since independence. The Sethusamudram project is a commercial project. It will help us to save huge amount in our inland transport and create huge employment opportunities to lakhs of people of Tamil Nadu.

Since the time is short, without giving further details that have already been repeated so many times in this House by the Hon. Members of Tamil Nadu, I would like to say that as a reward for our outstanding success of family planning in the whole of India, we should be rewarded with the Sethusamudram project. It should be included in the Plan. That is my humble request, so that by 2000 AD

the congestion in ports like Calcutta and Madras will be reduced and the Tuticorin port will receive the importance of an international sea port.

At the end I would like to say that if our country is to be powerful in the world map of industries, the power supply to the industries should be guaranteed within 2000 AD. Our kisans should have a continuous supply of power at least for six hours in a day for irrigation purposes. The power supply to the kisans should be continuous and uninterrupted. Ample power production alone will make us powerful to form a new India by 2000 AD.

Before concluding I want to tell something about Prof. Rangaji's opinion of castes at the Panchayat level. In Anna's time in Porur constituency Mr. Srinivasan, a Hindu fisherman was the candidate. Only five members of his family belonged to his community. With that minority candidate we had made that election victorious for us. It was the Anna and Periyar who made politicians like us to be brave and to put minority candidates for elections. If that attitude is taken by all of us, then the caste barriers will fly away from India.

With these words I conclude Sir.

15.00 hrs.

[Shri Vakkom Purushothaman
in the Chair]

DR. PHULRENU GUHA (Contai) :
Sir, I stand to support the Seventh Five Year Plan. I know that we have limitation of funds and, as such, plans cannot be drawn up according to our satisfaction. In the same way the time of the House is so limited that we cannot express our views fully on the document.

The Plan Document is to give a picture of economic progress and the social Commitment. Plan is for the development of the country. I know the limitation on our resources. Unfortunately, we have to spend so much money for defence. If the circumstances were different, I am sure, we could divert the money for development and we

[Dr. Phulrenu Guha]

could reduce the number of people below the poverty line. But unfortunately the situation is not such in the country today.

In spite of these limitations I would like to point out a few areas which should be looked into. I do not find any mention of eradication of bonded labour and the child labour in the document. Everyone of us is very unhappy that we still have bonded labour. No doubt, a Bill on bonded labour is coming before the House and laws are necessary to abolish something or reduce the difficulties, yet at the same time we know that unless there is a planned programme nothing could be done. Programmes must be formulated to abolish bonded labour. I strongly suggest that comprehensive Plan must be drawn up to abolish child labour also in the country with definite time-limit. Unless there is definite time limit, it will not be easy to abolish child labour. We must work out that Plan and we should all work together to see that child labour does not exist after certain years. I would like to suggest in this work help of the voluntary organisations all over the country should also be taken.

Now, a word about drought. As far as I can see there was a plan and money was allotted for flood control but I do not find any provision for drought. Certain parts of our country suffer from drought, every year. So, there should be a plan to change the drought prone areas into normal areas. In this connection I would like to mention that in West Bengal a certain portion is suffering from drought.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

DR. PHULRENU GUHA : I would like to point out that although we produce enough yet our distribution system is defective.

We have enough of agricultural produce in the whole of country, but we see that many of our people do not get even two square meals. As there is no time, I cannot elaborate that. But I suggest that a plan should be drawn up so that each Indian is able to get basic staple food

two times a day. That can be done and we have to spend some time to draw out that plan.

In West Bengal, Midnapur area has a fertile land. If there is an irrigation system, that portion of our country can give enough food for the country and also the people of that area can be economically better.

When any particular project is drawn up or approved. I am sure, it is not considered only from the point of view whether it is viable or not; certain human considerations have also to be taken into consideration. There is a place called Contai in West Bengal where the buses come from different directions and you will be surprised that more people travel on the top of the buses than inside those buses. They travel risking their lives. Last year, Contai-Digha railway line was inaugurated, the land was acquired and the office was also opened. This year we understand that the project has not been cleared by the Planning Commission, because they are not sure of certain issues. The people of that area cannot send their products to other areas easily. Fares of buses are much more than the railway fares. Digha is a tourist centre and an aquarium is being constructed at Digha. How will the people be able to reach there if it is not connected with railway? There is sea at Digha. The people of West Bengal, Assam and east India have the right to enjoy the sea-shore. Human considerations must be there in this case also. I would request that you ask the Planning Commission to clear the project.

Lastly, whatever allotment is made to any State by Central Government, the Central Government must see that the allotted amount is spent by them and it is not returned at the end of the year.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI (Begusarai) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Five year Plans are an essential part of our national development. Through these plans, we put before the people our targets and our priorities during the next five years. This

is the medium through which we give information on all these matters to the people. I thank the Government for putting so much hard work in formulating this Five Year Plan. Our hon. Minister of State for Planning has put in a lot of labour in formulating this plan. The main objectives of this Plan are to remove poverty and to raise the standard of living. Had this not been the objective or intention, our Prime Minister would not have gone to the remote areas of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan to get first hand information about their difficulties and to know the realities of their lives and shortcomings on the part of the Government so as to work for a better future for them. Prof. Dandavate is a veteran parliamentarian, but he said that it was nothing but a jugglery of figures—I do not agree with him. I want to know from him whether it is a jugglery of figures or a fact that our per capita income was Rs. 466 in 1950-51 which rose to Rs. 632.80 in 1970-71 and further rose to over Rs. 748 in 1983-84. Similarly, there is no denying the fact that our achievements are dazzling the world and they are also appreciating it. Similarly, our foodgrains production in 1951-52 was 52.8 million tonnes which rose to 149 to 154 million tonnes in 1983-84. We are self-sufficient in foodgrains. Still, I cannot say that we have achieved a lot, but at the same I cannot also say that we have achieved nothing. Likewise, you see that we produce 30 per cent of the total tea production in the world. In the case of tobacco and cotton, 10 per cent of the total world production is produced in India. The production of cement, iron-ore, manganese, etc. is also satisfactory. In the field of industrial production, India's name appears in the upper portion of the list. Our achievement in the oil sector has been most significant. In 1980-81 we used to import 66 per cent of our total petroleum requirement, but in 1983-84 we were importing only 27 per cent. Similarly, the number of those living below the poverty line has also gone down. We have made a commendable progress. What I mean to say is that it is not a fact that we have achieved nothing. Therefore, the submission of Prof. Dandavate that the Seventh Five Year Plan has been revised in view of the

'Approach Paper, is not correct. The premise is the same, our principles remain the same, our ideals continue to be the same, there cannot be any change in them, but our Prime Minister has given it a new direction, a new approach, a human approach. He has said that the development does not mean industries, dams and roads alone; development means elevation of the man and the society. Its objective is achieving physical, targets and cultural and spiritual advancement of the society. What I mean to say is that from development we generally mean progress in the economic field. Development has a wide-ranging meaning. We can have realistic base for our development only if we pay equal attention to all fields whether it is social, political or cultural. Today, while we are discussing this Plan, I would like to tell the hon. Minister that we have not been able to achieve the main objectives, we have not been able to remove regional imbalances. We shall have to effect changes in the administrative set up for that. Our policies are, no doubt, good. But you will have to make changes in the administrative set up to remove regional imbalances so that the objectives of the Seventh Five Year Plan could be achieved. The administrative set up which we inherited from the British is faulty. You do formulate plans but the administrators have no practical experience; they do not go to the villages and are not aware of their difficulties. How can then development take place. It takes a long time for a file to move from one table to another for any developmental work. Therefore, I want to say that many of our projects which are lying incomplete since the First or the Second Five Year Plan should be completed. Just now, one of our colleagues has said that situation in Bihar is grim. Therefore, I would suggest that improvement should be effected in the Government machinery and the poor states should be told the ways and means to mobilize additional resources. Secondly, our plan can succeed only if emphasis is laid on infrastructure and timebound programmes. First of all, there is need to make changes in the administrative set up.

With these words, I thank you for

[Shrimati Krishna Sahi]

giving me an opportunity to speak.

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN (Jhunjhunu) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Seventh Five Year Plan and welcome it wholeheartedly.

Planning is most essential for the achievement of an objective or success of a mission and if planning is done sagaciously it bears rich fruits. We are all praise for this Plan but I have a few suggestions in respect of my State Rajasthan and my constituency. I belong to Jhunjhunu constituency in Rajasthan. The most unique feature of the area is that during the freedom struggle the people of this area raised slogans like '*Inqalab Zindabad*', '*Do or Die*' and '*Vande Mataram*' and struck terror in the heart of the British. It was this area which contributed largest number of soldiers to the Indian Army to guard the borders of the motherland. But despite this, the problem of drinking water is most acute in this area. Even blood is cheaper than water there. I, therefore, request the government to meet the drinking water requirements of the area urgently. The Indira Canal has reached Taranagar. The waters of that Canal can be supplied to Jhunjhunu through pipes. This would help in providing water to all. Churu which is adjacent to Jhunjhunu is also facing scarcity of water. I would request the government to provide water in these areas keeping in view the sacrifices made by the area by contributing largest number of soldiers to the Indian Army and thereby solve their drinking water problem which has not been done for the past many centuries.

Secondly, I would request the Government to instal a T.V. tower at Jhunjhunu, which, as I have already said, contributes largest number of soldiers to the army so that the people there could watch the progress made in different parts of the country and also with respect to Science and technology.

Thirdly, I request the government to construct a stadium. The people of this

area are excellent football players. A stadium should, therefore, be provided in the area. Fourthly, there has been no increase in the Rail services in the area since its inception. Khetri Assembly segment lies in my constituency. One goods train runs between Dabra and Singana daily. I would like to request that if it is not possible to provide complete train for this section, 5 to 6 coaches should be attached for the convenience of the people of the area. Neem Ka Thana, Sikar and Jhunjhunu should be linked with Udaipurwati so as to provide train service to the people of that area, who never seen a train.

A 'Sainik School' should be opened in the area so that children could get better education. There is no government college in the area so far. Besides, an agricultural college should also be opened immediately.

Better transport arrangements should also be made in the area in order to provide convenience to the passengers. 'Vayudoot' service should be introduced in the area.

The farmers do not get adequate power supply. Heavy tax has been imposed on power. The plight of the farmers in that area is miserable. They neither have enough food nor drinking water. Heavy tax on power has broken the farmer's back. I would, therefore, request the government to provide adequate power supply without tax to the drought affected areas of Rajasthan so that the farmers who are facing crisis at the moment could heave a sigh of relief. They will not be able to bear the burdern of heavy taxation on power.

The level of water in the wells is low and this is due to scanty rainfall in the area. The farmers should be provided regular power supply and without tax so that they could get relief from the serious drought situation in the area. The farmers should also be provided seeds and fertilizers free of cost.

The farmers should be provided pass-books, on the pattern of bank account

pass books, indicating their landed property so that they could easily get loans from banks and thereby escape the clutches of middlemen and corruption in banks. I would suggest that when the farmer makes payment of his loan instalments, an entry to that effect must be made in his pass-book.

Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jodhpur are border areas. Caravans of people travel from one part of the area to another in search of water. They have to travel 20 to 25 Kilometres in search of water. Necessary arrangements for drinking water should be made so that people have not cover long distances.

Cows of good stock are found in the area and they are considered sacred. The cows are not getting adequate fodder there. Drinking Water and fodder points should be opened in the area so that cows and other lives took could be saved. More Ration depots should be opened. As it is a sensitive border area it becomes all the more necessary to provide these things.

With these words, I support the Plan.

[English]

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOO-WALIA (Sangrur) : While going through the complete text of the 7th five year plan, not only myself but crores of Indians felt dismayed, because it has been referred to Parliament after it has been was completely adopted by Government. A certain period of time has also elapsed. It should have been referred first to Parliament, and then accepted.

May I ask the Minister whether he is going to have a discussions on these issues in order to have a mid-term review of the Plan? If not, our views will go only on the record, and there will be nothing else to gain. I was dismayed, and felt that certain considerations should have been given while the Plan proposals were finalized.

Punjab has suffered during the last four years. It has faced a disturbed situation for the whole of the period. But to

my utter surprise, no special consideration has been given to Punjab's problems.

I urge upon the Minister through you that he should have a mid-term review of the whole proposal and following steps should be immediately taken in regard to—Punjab. Punjab should be treated as a special case because while going through it, I have come to the conclusion that in the planning proposal the centrally sponsored schemes are over-shadowed. I urge upon him to withdraw the centrally sponsored schemes and government should give direct assistance to the States so that they can further plan as per their requirements.

Regarding the agricultural sector, traditional approach has been adopted. For instance, the rich areas which are contributing to the food-grains pool of the country are ignored and nothing has been said about the piling up of food-grains in the States. At present about 93 lac tonnes of foodgrains are stored in Punjab. This is about 1/3rd of the country's buffer stock of foodgrains. Of this, about 40 lac tonnes are stored in the open under polythene covers and 15 lac tonnes are two to three years old. Look at the gravity of the situation. It is lying in the open in Punjab and that is to the tune of 93 lac tonnes of foodgrains. In such a situation, higher productivity on which there is a repeated stress in the Plan Document, loses much of its relevance. I would, therefore, suggest that the strategy for this sector may be thoroughly overhauled and the problems of the States making maximum contribution to the country's stock of foodgrains should not be treated as their local problems. It is a national problem.

Nothing has been said about the employment of the rural youths. There is a problem of unemployed rural youths. The government should reserve 80 per cent of the services for the rural youths because talking of equal opportunity under unequal circumstance is a big hoax. I again stress upon the government that in Punjab case, additional resource mobilization is done. The additional resource mobilization

[Shri Balwant Singh Ramoowalia]

tion in the country is 3.1 and for Punjab it has been asked to raise it to 6.1, that is, it is double than what is at the national level. There is one more point and it is this 20 per cent of the budget has been allotted for below the poverty line States. If that is so, then Punjab will get nothing out this 20 per cent of the total budget.

I also urge upon you that effective steps should be taken to help Punjab in power generation. Punjab contributes 65 per cent to the national pool. The electricity of Punjab goes to farmers, but Punjab does not gain anything out of it, out of its contribution of electricity. The Government of India should do something about it. Effective and urgent steps should be taken to develop hydro potential for Punjab so that 2, 55000 diesel operated tube-wells are brought under electricity. Then, there is a Nangal Fertilizer Factory which is a major portion of the power generated in Punjab.

The electricity-based position of the Nangal Fertiliser Plant and the heavy water plant is a great drain on our limited power availability. Besides, the plant pays for this power at a ridiculously low rate of 8.23 paise per unit. It is requested that the plant may either set up a captive power capacity of its own or, as has been reported by done in the case of Andhra Pradesh additional funds may be made available to Punjab to create additional capacity equivalent to the power drawn by the Nangal Plant which will also pay for it at reasonable rates.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA : In the end I request, through you, that as Punjab has a sensitive border, sufficient amount should be allotted to look after the problems of the border areas of Punjab.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh) : Mr. Chairman, thank you for giving me this opportunity to participate in this important discussion on the Seventh Five Year Plan document that is presented in this House by the Minister in charge of

Planning. Before speaking anything, I would like to pay tributes to the sacred memory of the late Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the architect of Modern India who had initiated this process of planning and since, 1951-52 till now we have covered six plans and we are on the verge of starting the Seventh Plan. So, during the last thirty-five years we have achieved a lot in the process of this planning of the past six Five Year Plans. We have really achieved a lot. I cannot understand how our hon. Members from the opposition criticise and say that planning and plans have not achieved in India.

We have not illustrations in the statistics given here, and I would like to mention here and illustrate how our progress in different fields has been quite spectacular. In the field of agriculture in 1951-52 we were producing only 55 million tonnes, and that figure has now risen to only 153 million tonnes. And, fertilizer again today the production is 5.8 millions as against 1.8 million tonnes in 1951-52. In the case of steel the production is 6.14 million tonnes today as against 1.04 million tonnes in the beginning of the First Five Year Plan. Cement production also in 27.1 million tonnes as against 2.7 million tonnes, coal production is 144.9 million tonnes today as against 32.5 million tonnes at that time. Our dependence on imported oil also has come down from 56 per cent of 31 per cent in 1984. Particularly, our progress in the last Plan has been very laudable spectacular and more remarkable.

And, the number of people below the poverty line come down to 38 per cent, from 52 per cent, during this five year period and also our growth rate has recorded — which is a record — 5.2 per cent, and as against 3.5 p.c. which was the average growth rate from 1951-52 to 1979-80. As against this 3.5 average growth rate it has risen to 5.2 per cent during the last five years, and it is a spectacular performance and the Government the Congress Government I should say, deserves congratulations for such progress.

As you know, what is the objective of our planning? The eradication of poverty, and building up a strong and firm India.

Each Plan has taken us nearer to our cherished goal of socialism. The national consensus is that we must have growth in the economy—not only growth but growth with social justice. Food, work and productivity are the main priorities of the Seventh Five Year Plan which discussing.

There is a criticism from the opposition that what is the use of having this discussion in this House today. Actually it is the right time because the approach paper was also discussed in some form or the other. After the plan proposals were finalised and approved by the NDC, only it could be called a plan that we are discussing now. The N.D.C. approval draft Plan only in November last.

In regard to agriculture I would like to mention that by the turn of century our population will touch 100 crore and will be requiring 225 million tonnes of food-grains. All out effort should be made to control the population. But at the same time, it should be our endeavour to feed the growing population. That way, extension of the green revolution to eastern India in the Seventh Plan is a welcome feature. In agriculture the per hectare yield is quite less in eastern India—West Bengal, Assam, Orissa and Bihar as compared to other regions. And there the per quintal cultivation cost is higher. I congratulate the Prime Minister when he said that the latest technology would be introduced in the field of agriculture so that cultivation cost does not go up; otherwise it will not be remunerative to the farmers. In seventies procurement was made at the point of payonet because market prices were higher and the cultivators were not willing to part with their surplus produce at the procurement rates. But now the situation is reversed.

Emphasis on human resource development is another highlight of the Plan.

Rightly a lot of emphasis is placed on energy. The Soviet Union which is one of the most advanced countries of the world could bring about socialism with the use of energy and manpower taken together. We have a lot of coal in many place in India. Orissa has abundant coal deposits. The policy framework objectives are quite

laudable. We welcome them. They should be implemented properly, with full vigour and seriousness. Political motive and inefficiency on the part of the implementing machinery should not be there in allotting different projects and working out different schemes.

Super thermal power stations at Talchar and If valley, at the pitheads of coal mines, should be set up in the Seventh Plan itself. Eradication of regional imbalance has got to be attended to on priority basis. Orissa is full of natural resources. It is an irony of fate that Orissa which is a State full of natural resources, remains backward. It is a State ridden with poverty amidst plenty. It needs special care to develop the State by locating a number of central projects in the State in the interest of balanced development of the nation.

We are committed to planning. Planning is an effective instrument to change for society, to build up a socialistic pattern of society—a society free from exploitation, hunger and illiteracy.

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW (Dum Dum) :
First of all, let me congratulate the Planning Minister for placing the 7th Plan document on the Table. This is a Plan which will help our country in further development. It will help India enter the 20th century with speed, marching forward in all directions. Basically, the planning or the future of the country depends on two things, that is, agriculture and industry. I find that all along, since the First Five Year Plan to the present one, more emphasis has been given on the development of agriculture. I think that proper implementation of the Plan is necessary. I find that out of 80 million hectares of land which is under agriculture, about 40 million hectares of land is degraded land. In order to increase our food production and plantation areas, more emphasis should be given to improve this waste or degraded land in this Plan period so that in future, or even during the Seventh Plan, India will be in a position to produce more food. Basically, the people of India depend on agriculture. Therefore, more emphasis should be given on proper imple-

[Shri Asutosh Law]

mentation of agricultural planning which has been embodied in the Seventh Plan.

Second thing is industry which is the basic need of the country. Along with Agriculture, obviously we want that India should be industrialised, or industrialisation or industrial revolution should take place very fast in the country. I fully support the planning for industrial development in the Seventh Plan. But one thing I miss which I was eager to see. I can well appreciate that even in this Seventh Plan, more emphasis will be given on industrialisation but what about those sick industries? Industrialisation cannot take place only by setting up of new industries. By this process, the country cannot survive. We cannot ignore that there are so many industries which are sick. Even there are some public undertakings which are either sick or according to the definition of this House, potentially sick. If that is the position, more emphasis should be given on reviving those industrial units, particularly in Eastern States like Assam, Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal where we find that most of the industries, which are traditional industries like jute, cotton and heavy engineering industries, are either sick or are about to be sick. Therefore, I request the Planning Minister to give more emphasis, or to allot more money, or to give more importance to this so that along with the new industries, the sick industries can also survive. We have to remember one thing. About 2.18 crores people of our country are potentially unemployed. Under this Plan period obviously we will reduce their number, but if no extra emphasis is given on reviving those sick industries, it is obvious that this figure of 2.18 crores, which is now the official figure, will further increase. On the one hand, new people will get employment in the Plan period if we set up new factories and on the other hand, those who are working in those industries which are sick or are going to be sick, will lose their employment. So, this aspect has also to be taken care of.

Regarding the poverty line, officially 38 per cent of the total population of the country is living below the poverty line

even after 38 years of Independence. Obviously, we will hope that in this Plan period, this figure should be reduced so that in future our country will have the least percentage below the poverty line.

To achieve success in the Seventh Plan, I feel that apart from food and industrialisation, eradication of unemployment as also removal of poverty should also be given more importance. The allocation which has been made in the Seventh Plan in regard to education is quite sufficient, but the money which has been allocated in the Plan should be utilised more and more for the eastern sector where illiteracy is much more concentrated. Moreover, there should be proper monitoring in regard to the utilisation of money allotted for development of educational institutions or opening of new universities. Unless this is done we will not be able to achieve our targets in the Seventh Plan.

With these words I wholeheartedly support the Seventh Five-Year Plan.

[Translation]

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH (Mathura): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wholeheartedly support the Seventh Five Year Plan and also thank the young Prime Minister and the hon Minister for presenting a very well prepared and balanced plan. Under this Plan progress of every area has been taken care of and the amount has been allocated accordingly.

So far as the question of the Congress Party and the Government is concerned, Congress is going to celebrate its centenary. It has always been the aim of the Congress Party and the Government to bring speedy progress in every area of the country.

During the independence struggle also, Mahatma Gandhi made the rural areas as his base to carry out the struggle. In the Five Year Plan, industries—whether based on petroleum or minerals—defence, health, education, backward classes, agriculture all have been covered. Rural development and agriculture have been given special priority. As India is predominantly an

agricultural country, maximum amount should be allocated for this sector.

Even after 38 years of independence, there are no roads, electricity, drinking water, small scale industries in a number of villages. This has hampered the development of rural areas. I would also draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the health services. Health services in any state of the country, whether it is in the plains or in the hill areas, should be given top priority.

As regards agriculture, I would urge the hon. Minister to chalk out schemes for agriculture to ensure maximum supply of water through deep canals for agriculture in the areas where there is no provision of water or where the water is brackish. Besides, dams should be constructed across the rivers to make more and more water available for irrigation. I would also request that small scale industries should be established in the rural areas. The other day, during discussion on the cold storages, I referred to food preservation and requested that cold storages should be set up in the rural areas. If these cold storages are established in the rural areas, it would be helpful in creating employment, setting up of industries and ensuring progress of the rural sector. Besides, setting up of sugar factories should also be encouraged. I had requested earlier also that in view of increase in the prices of sugar, Government should set up Sugar Factories in the rural areas. This will give maximum benefits to the farmers. The setting up of sugar factories will also create employment opportunities in the areas where they are established.

The Government should open agricultural colleges in large number. I represent district Mathura. No agricultural college has been opened there to date. The hon. Minister should pay attention in this direction also. I have raised the issue of power supply a number of times in the House. There is an oil refinery in Mathura and wherever there are refineries, the gas generated in the refineries, is neutralised by burning it. Why do you not set up gas based thermal power stations? This will increase the capacity of

power generation and the problem of the power will also be solved.

Our Prime Minister has said that scheme to check pollution in the river Ganga will be started shortly. I want to say that Mathura, which is the birth place of Lord Krishna, is visited by lakhs of pilgrims both domestic and from abroad. So, why not the work of checking the pollution of Yamuna river should also be undertaken. I would request the hon. Minister to work on the scheme of constructing a bridge and barrage across the river Yamuna in Mathura.

With these words I support the Seventh Five Year Plan and request that maximum efforts should be made for the development of the rural areas.

[English]

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV (Nalanda) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Prime Minister intervened in the discussion yesterday with high promises which I think, are not going to be fulfilled.

It is a Plan with a small anti-poverty component. It means, the entire Plan is not anti-poverty but only partly. The anti-poverty part of the Plan, in terms of public outlay on rural development programme comes to only 5% of the total 7th Plan outlay. If we add to it total housing and urban development, water supply and sanitation, social and women's welfare, Scheduled Castes and Tribes and other backward classes programmes, nutrition labour and labour welfare programmes (which give benefit to other than poor as well), the total would come to about 14.1% of the total public sector outlay. For the rest, the poor are to depend on the so-called percolation from the enrichment of the rich.

As against the share of the poor, those who are in control of organised industry, trade and services will get the lion's share of the public and private outlays on industry and infrastructure. The market process of giving more to those who already have more will be strengthened by allocating about two-thirds of Plan outlay. The benefits of agricultural development

[Shri Vijoy Kumar Yadav]

are proportionate to control over land-holdings. About 17 per cent of the Public sector outlay, directly earmarked for agricultural development, would thus largely benefit the big, rich and middle farmers, constituting a small minority of the rural sector.

The plan is supposed to cover both public and private investment. Private investment is just an estimate and no specific policy instruments have been perfected for its realisation. But it is obvious the poor majority, both above and below official poverty line cannot participate in investment. Only those who own property i.e., no more than 10 per cent of the population would directly benefit from it. The antipoverty outlays are a bare 2 per cent of total (both public and private) investment. It is clear that antipoverty programmes are a mere window dressing for enabling the poor to just survive as poor voters for the ruling party.

An honest people's plan—discussed, debated by the people and with their involvement in formulation in India has no meaning if it is not one—point plan— one hundred per cent—that is, it has to be purely and wholly an anti-poverty plan. Growth, modernisation, high technology, self-reliance, everything gets meaning and legitimacy if it helps to eradicate poverty which science, technology and social and planning theories and practices have made it possible. Even the longterm (now made conjestical) 21st century entry scenario given by the planners shows 90 million unemployed (about 10 per cent of the population—though one is expected to digest the atrocity that with 10 per cent of the population and 22 per cent of the force being unemployed, only 5 per cent of the population would be below poverty line), and per capita expenditure of Rs. 8 and paise 56 per day only, presumably at 1984-85 prices.

This brings the most glaring hypocrisy of the plans, in fact, the parody of planning—to the forefront. Social justice, reduction in disparities, inter-regional,

inter-personal and inter-class—are always repeated as the objective. But this is never made an operational element of the Plan. Neither targets are fixed nor any policy instruments are desired. In fact, hefty dose of inequity bred by the plan through further enriching the big industrialists, traders, professionals, rich peasants and landlords is not even measured, let alone any steps and policies for reducing it. The plan which claims to be technically sophisticated is a poor attempt on the part of the Government to protect the interests of the rich. To say that earning something like rupees three for providing minimum calories intake is social justice is to make the term social justice a meaningless noise. Since this paltry sum does not provide for a minimum of non-food consumption and since no one lives by bread alone, this expenditure fails to provide even the minimum level of calories.

Let the planners say by how much income wealth and economic power would be further concentrated at the end of the Plan, through the market process, through plan programmes and fiscal measures, industry, trade, educational and other policies. Can any economist say that adverse results will not increase further by the plan?

Thus the reference to social justice, equity etc. are a mere eye-wash to cover up the ugly reality hidden in carefully and not-so-carefully doctored figures in the Plan.

The exercise on resources for the Plan is a world of make-believe. By the time the Plan is out, the figures worked out at 1984-85 prices have already lost some value because of inflation. The approach to the Seventh Plan assumed 26 per cent savings rate and said, "it has already been achieved"...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude. I am calling the next Member.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : The same Planning Commission now says that we have a savings rate of 23.1 per cent which would be increased by the end of Plan to 24.3 per cent...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude, Kumari Mamata Banerjee.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Even with a smaller savings rate than visualised earlier and the same rate of growth of national income, the planners have estimated financial resources of the same magnitude as visualised in the approach. What is the magic which makes this possible, one is left wondering.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please resume your seat.

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Then the hope to raise over Rs. 30,000 crores from the public enterprises, while less than one-fourth was realised from this source during the Sixth Plan is hard to understand...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please resume your seat.

Kumari Mamata Banerjee.

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE (Jadavpur) : Sir, I welcome the Seventh Five-Year Plan, and I am sure, under the dynamic leadership of our Prime Minister, this will create a new era and it will help develop all sections of the people. We are moving towards the Twenty-first Century, and our Prime Minister has categorically said that our plans and programmes should be with a modern outlook in order to cope up with the Century to come.

The Plan has got two major aspects : one is industry and the other is agriculture. On the side of the agriculture, our performance has been very impressive, especially in foodgrains. There has been a steady growth in agriculture, reinforced by special schemes to help the weaker sections. The Seventh Five-Year Plan will lay a strong foundation. It seeks to maintain the momentum of growth in the economy while redoubling our effort to remove the poverty.

On the industry side, I am of the same opinion as that given by hon. Member

Shri Asutosh Law that in the eastern region there are many sick industries. I know that it is not the Government's policy to take over sick industries. But the Government should take the initiative to set up new industries in order to absorb the poor workers. Actually so many industries are now closed down because of mismanagement. The poor workers are virtually on the streets; they are starving for food. I know, in my own constituency, two big factories, Steel & Allied Products Ltd. and A. Stock & Co., have been remaining closed for the last five years. Under the leadership of Shri Jyoti Basu, the Chief Minister of West Bengal, these industries are remaining closed. (Interruptions) You will be surprised to know that the Chief Minister is blaming me for the closure of the factories. I have been here only for one year, but he has been there for eight years. But he is blaming us. Why is he not getting the factories reopened ? (Interruptions) I would make this request to the hon. Minister : if it is not possible to take over these sick units, you have to set up new industries where you can absorb these poor workers. We are not playing politics here. We know that the West Bengal Chief Minister is categorically opposed to the Seventh Five-Year Plan. Why ? (Interruptions) Last year, an amount of Rs. 1200 crores was returned by him. Why ? Are funds not required there ? The people of West Bengal are not getting drinking water, water they are not having goods, there is no Primary Health Centre. Why is it happening ? Why has that money been returned by the West Bengal Government ? What is the condition of West Bengal today ? I am not playing politics here. I am really interested in the development of West Bengal, I am really interested in the upliftment of the poor people of West Bengal. I am asking the hon. Minister whether the Government is taking any action to find out why the West Bengal Government has not spent Rs. 1200 crores, why the West Bengal Government has returned that money. That is because these people are not habituated to doing constructive work, they are habituated to doing destructive work. I am speaking in favour of the people of West Bengal.

My Hon. colleague Prof. Rajhans stat-

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

ed that unemployment problem is the main problem.

(Interruptions)

The number of unemployed youth is increasing day by day. It is my suggestion to the Government that this being the year of International Youth, recruitment for the Central Government service should not be banned. It has been banned for so many years. In our State only Marxist backed people are appointed on priority. Then what will the genuine people do? I request our Hon. Minister to relax the age bar of the youth from 28 to 33 so that more and more youth will get priority.

I have a small request that the postal order fees should be relaxed, because the poor youth cannot get money for postal orders. They are crying on the road just as they are crying behind the administration.

I would also like to mention here that your plan has not mentioned about the refugee problem. This is a very sentimental issue. It concerns not only West Bengal; but also Assam, Tripura and Orissa. You have changed your industrial policy, then why don't you change the rehabilitation policy also? Why are you not giving free hold-rights in urban areas also?

There was an ill-feeling expressed against those who had come from East Pakistan before 30 or 40 years. In West Bengal I know particularly that the Government is giving two types of lease deeds. One is 99 years lease deed and the other is 999 years lease deed. Why is there this type of discrimination? The Chief Minister is playing duplicity regarding this problem. He is saying that the Central Government is not allotting the land for refugees; so, we cannot do anything.

I think, in this August House I am the only one who is speaking about the refugee problem. None from the opposition is interested to speak about this. You should do something in this regard also.

(Interruptions)

AN. HON. MEMBER : What about Assam?

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : We are in favour of Assamese also. We have passed the Citizen.

(Interruptions)

I would like to say that more and more small scale industries should be set up. Then only the rural people will get more and more priority. Small is beautiful in our language, but in the Marxist's language, small is dangerous. That is why they are not interested to encourage small scale industries. If you set up some small scale industries, the rural people will get more and more chances and their morale will go up.

I would also like to say that in regard to shortage of drinking water, I am of the same opinion of my Rajasthani friends. Drinking water is not available in Rajasthan, but blood is available there. We are living in an era of modern age. Our outlook should be broad-minded. Our outlook should also be modern for the upliftment of the poor. Drinking water is not available in many parts of West Bengal also. The poor people of the villages are not getting drinking water. There is no primary health centre. Poor people are not getting any medicine. Even a pregnant lady cannot reach hospital in proper time. This is the horrible condition there.

I would like to thank the Hon. Minister because in the 7th Five Year Plan all these things will be covered and it will create a new era. It is the Congress Party which can serve the people, which can serve the workers better.

(Interruptions)

Our Prime Minister categorically said that this Plan will create a new era for the upliftment of the poor people. Only Mr. Jyoti Basu has opposed this 7th Five Year Plan. Why is it? Because this Chief Minister is not habituated to the constructive work. Opposition can oppose, but it should be constructive. He thinks that he is bigger than the Prime Minister. I

oppose the attitude of the Chief Minister, Mr. Jyoti Basu and I whole heartedly support this plan, Thank you.

(Interruptions)

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Mr. Jyoti Basu called a spade a spade, nobody else could do it.

[Translation]

SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI (Ghosi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government of any developing country considers planned development necessary for the development of the country and for the removal of regional imbalance. So, our national leaders introduced Five Year Plans for the all round progress of the country after we achieved independence. With the completion of Six Five Years Plans, the pace of development in the country has been considerably accelerated and in spheres like agriculture, industry, education etc., we made progress beyond expectation. Today is an auspicious day when we are discussing the Seventh Five Year Plan in this august Houset. It is the Seventh milestone on the path of development. We have made a lot of progress in the matter of foodgrains. Previously, we used to approach other countries with a begging bowl to procure foodgrains but now we are exporting foodgrains to other countries. Similarly, we have made a lot of progress in the field industries. We have expanded educational facilities, controlled the incidence of diseases and raised the standard of living. By increasing irrigation facilities to this extent, we have set a commendable example to the world. All these achievements are before us. I would like to request through you that with all these successes, many lacunae have crept into the basic objectives which these plans were started. It was Pandit Jawaharalal Nehru who conceived five year plans keeping in perspective the coming fifty years. Regional imbalance is still there. We hope that in the important document which the hon. Minister has prepared on the Seventh Plan, he would suggest measures to remove the lacunae and of course he spelt out some measures. In the first instance, I have a charge to make. I belong to the eastern part of Uttar Pradesh. In the eastern

Uttar Pradesh and the western Bihar, most of the people out of about 3 to] 4 crore of population are living below the poverty line. There is a saying that some die due to overeating some due to starvation. There are a number of such persons. If you go to villages, you will that the standard of education is very low. We may evolve schemes sitting in Delhi and prepare a number of documents but I can show you hundreds of such villages where there is no proper building for primary schools. We may have discussion on the education policy and prepare a lot of programmes but the basic thing is that the primary schools lack proper building. If there is rainfall, the water falls on the heads of teachers and pupils in the absence of a roof in the building. We had hoped that in the Seventh Plan these basic necessities would be met.

There is an acute shortage of irrigation facilities and power in our area. I have constantly been drawing the attention of the hon. Minister to it in the House. But I regret to say that nothing concrete has been done in this regard.

You have claimed that regional imbalance will be removed and allocation of funds will be made to those states which have got nothing. We hope that this matter will be considered in right perspective. Our eastern region is very backward. If it is taken as a separate unit for development purposes, only then progress can be ensured here.

We see that there has been no improvement in the canal system. Of course the Government allocate funds but they go waste. In 1978 there was a proposal to set up a thermal power station at Doharighat but there has been no follow up action. I had made request in this House on the 3rd of this month that this thermal power station should be taken up. But as it lies in the eastern Uttar Pradesh and is connected with Western Bihar also, it may not have been taken up for consideration on this account. The hon. Minister stated in reply to my question that a communication had been sent to the Government of Uttar Pradesh asking them to take up the matter for consideration; the Centre is unable to take it up. We

[Shri Raj Kumar Rai]

shall see what can be done. It would be better if that scheme is taken up now. In this connection Shri Vasant Sathe has also promised to look into the matter. With the setting up of this Power Station, the power generation will increase and in this way industries will be set up in large number. Districts, Ghazipur, Azamgarh and Ballia have no industry worth the name. If there are a few mills there, they are just like a white elephant.

Some mills run for 10 days while some for 20 days. I would like that you may pay more attention towards the poor and the people of the weaker section in our area.

Many schemes have been taken up under the 20 Point Programme. Along with it many schemes have been taken up in the Seventh Plan also. NREP and RLEGP are a happy augury for the country but it is a matter of regret that though the Government of India has allocated crores of rupees for village-oriented schemes and to improve the living standards of the people, the funds are not being properly utilised. The extent to which NREP funds and its implementation are being bungled is matchless. I would like that as you are allocating huge sums for the Seventh Five Year Plan, a separate cell for proper monitoring of the utilisation of the funds should be up.

With these words I thank you.

SHRI SALAHUDDIN (Godda) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, by seeing this Seventh Plan document it becomes clear that through this document we have tried to find a *via media* between socialism and capitalism. Under this scheme, the main thing that has been observed is that it is based on production planning and there is no emphasis on consumption planning. This is the reason that no coordination is being established between the two. We have controlled the production but we have to see as to how consumption can be controlled.

Another thing is that in this document of the Seventh Plan it has been stated that :

[English]

The total demand for coal is estimated to reach 236.7 million tonnes by 1989-90. The gap between demand and production will be met by drawing on the coal stocks and through some 'import' of coking coal.

[Translation]

This document is saying that the gap between demand and production will be met by import. We nationalised the coal mines in 1973 and we have exploited the country's coal mines but in spite of that we have not been able to open many coal mines. On the one hand certain coal mines are lying closed and on the other hand you say that the gap between demand and production will be met through import.

Similarly, about textile it has been stated that

[English]

"Handlooms will be the largest producer and it will account for 40 per cent of output.

[Translation]

The document mentions about 40 per cent output but an analysis thereof has not been mentioned. Our textile policy says something else; there is no mention of 40 per cent therein but in the draft Plan we are saying that we shall produce 40 per cent in handloom sector.

[English]

There is a controversy between the textile policy and the draft of the Seventh Five Year Plan.

[Translation]

I find much contradiction between the two. Now I want to draw your attention towards the Railways :

[English]

"In terms of originating freight traffic, the load on the railway system is likely

to be 340 million tonnes in 1989-90 as against 263 million tonnes in 1984-85."

The Plan envisages that the growth in passenger traffic will be restrained to 2 per cent per annum and that within this, priority will be given to long distance passenger traffic and high density suburban traffic.

[Translations]

On the one hand the condition of the passenger trains in our country is appalling and on the other hand you are not planning more than 2 per cent growth in relation to entry into the 21st century. In that also you are saying that growth will be in the long distance trains. It is a very complicated problem. You have said nothing about the conditions of the local trains and the 2 per cent growth in passenger traffic is envisaged in the long distance trains.

I would like to draw your attention towards one more point :

[English]

36 million people crossed the poverty line between 1977-78 and 1983-84. In absolute terms, the number of poor persons is expected to fall from 273 millions in 1984-85 to 211 millions in 1989-90.

[Translation]

The biggest discrepancy is in the figures before us. India is basically an agricultural country. 80 per cent of our population lives in the villages but our planning is not rural oriented. The fruits of the planning are not reaching them. Only partial success has been achieved so far in the current plan, the remaining plans have failed. No plan has succeeded fully. We should, therefore have practical approach and it should be kept in mind that India is an agricultural country. The Plan should be adjusted in a way that the people living in the villages get proper benefits thereof.

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD SINGH
(Jaunpur) * Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to

support the Seventh Five Year Plan. Through this Plan people living below the poverty line will definitely be benefited. Alongwith it, the welfare schemes included in the Plan will definitely go a long way in benefiting the poor and the weaker sections of the society. I want to congratulate the Hon. Prime Minister and Minister of State for Planning for including very good programmes in it. They will definitely benefit every one.

Now I would like to say certain things about my own region and the State. Eastern Uttar Pradesh is a very backward area, as was stated by Shri Raj Kumar just now. In 1962, Pt Jawahar Lal Nehru had constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Patel, the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission to find out the extent of poverty prevailing in the four districts of the State, namely Jaunpur, Azamgarh, Deoria and Ghazipur. The committee had visited these areas and felt concerned about the abject poverty and backwardness there. It then submitted a report recommending setting up of heavy industries in these districts so that unemployment could be removed and the unemployed could earn livelihood. To-date not a single heavy industry has been opened in Jaunpur. Through you, I request the hon Minister that a project relating to establishment of a heavy industry in Jaunpur must be included in the Seventh Five Year Plan.

The eastern part of Uttar Pradesh has always remained in the grip of floods. Every year the area suffers losses worth crores of rupees and there is loss of life also. Recently, Jaunpur remained inundated for months together. The urban as well as rural areas remain submerged under water which result in loss of crops and damage to houses worth crores of rupees. The Government has to distribute foodgrains there worth lakhs of rupees. When I was a Member of the Legislative Assembly, there also I used to say and, today, through you also I want to request the hon. Minister that some permanent solution of their problem should be found. I had asked a question in this connection to which the Minister of water

[Shri Kamla Prasad Singh]

resources had replied that the Commission was considering the Jaunpur conservation scheme. I hope that some scheme envisaging permanent solution to control the recurring floods in Jaunpur district will be included in the Seventh Five Year Plan.

16.30 hrs.

In our district many schools are without buildings, consequently, the boys have to sit under the trees—be it winter, summer or rains. They are always in trouble and because of these difficulties, schools are closed. This situation prevails in winter as well as in floods and during heatwave. I, therefore, request that you should definitely make schemes to provide buildings to those schools which are without buildings.

In Bhadiah tehsil of our district there is acute crisis of drinking water. So much so that during summer it is not possible to offer water even to a marriage party. After taking sweets they leave without water. The Uttar Pradesh Government have stopped constructing tanks there. The hand pumps are being installed on the basis of 1972 survey and not on the basis of present population. I request that hand pumps should be installed on the basis of population and in those areas which lack facilities. The 1972 survey should be dispensed with and the hand pumps should be installed on the basis of the present population.

In our area there are as many as two municipalities and notified areas and town Areas. The roads are in very bad shape there.

Drinking water should be provided by installing tube-wells there. The farmers having tube-wells are facing great difficulty in the absence of power. District Plan is in operation in Uttar Pradesh and it is being implemented in our district also. Development works like construction of roads and canals or installation of tubewells are in progress there. But when the question of flood control comes, we

cannot function in such a manner. I would like to point out to the hon. Minister that the Seventh Five Year Plan has been formulated with a view to removing such difficulties and to undertake welfare measures. This document has been prepared in such a way that there will not be a single person who will not be benefited thereby. I would like to say that if such features are made part of the Plan, we will get considerable benefit.

You are providing funds very liberally. You should entrust the responsibility of ensuring implementation of the projects to the committees set up at district level under the 20-point programme. No doubt, you provide funds for construction of roads or opening of schools and for some other work, but those funds are not fully utilised. The result is that for the same work i.e. for earth work on 1 Km. long road the District Council receives an amount of Rs. 18-19 thousand, the Block Development Officer receives Rs. 12-13 thousand and, some other agency receives an amount of Rs. 30-35 thousand. There should not be such wide variation. Every one is certainly getting benefit under the 20-point programme you will find that no person has been left uncovered under one or the other point under this programme. If you extend the necessary co-operation in its implementation, it will definitely prove beneficial.

With these words I congratulate the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister for preparing this document i.e. the Seventh Five Year Plan and conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduars): We have already finished our Sixth Five Year Plan and we are entering the Seventh Five Year Plan. Before going into that, the Government and the Planning Commission should assess what achievements we have made in the previous plans. I have some record just to remind the government how much we have achieved in the consecutive five year plans.

Though in agricultural production and industrial production we have some achievements, it has created some sort of confusion, as the national income has been growing very slow. At the end of the Sixth Five Year Plan, the agricultural production was found to be about 154 million tonnes with 4.5 per cent increase and increase industrial production came about 7 per cent has the national income grew only 3 per cent but annum. So, it was decreasing after every five year plan. In 1951-56, the national income was 3.6 per cent; in 1956-61, it was 4 per cent; in 1966-69, it was 4 per cent; in 1974-79 it was 5.4 per cent and in 1980-85, it was 3 per cent. Presently in India 70 per cent of the total population shares 7 per cent to 8 per cent of the nation's personal income. Besides this, 20 per cent are sharing 45 to 48 per cent of the total personal income. On the other hand, assets of the top 20 big houses in 1981 were Rs 8987.02 crores having 30 per cent growth in assets. This has been summed up in 1972 to Rs. 2883.69 crores. So, the government should know where our average growth stands and who is enjoying the benefits of independence and should see how everybody should enjoy these benefits equally.

The central public undertakings—the major items like steel, coal and textile accounted for heavy loss of Rs. 872 crores in 1983-84 against Rs. 192 crores in the preceding year. The losses increased 35 per cent in one year.

We are very much thinking of collaborations, financial collaboration, investments and foreign money. You kindly see the figures which I am going to give with regard to our development projects from the people coming from the foreign countries or the foreign companies. We are very much looking at other countries to assist us. Due to lack of time, I shall give the figure of 1984 only. 755 collaborations have already been approved by the Government.

The investment in the foreign collaborations is now Rs. 11,300 crores. That is a loss now. So, what we have already done in the Sixth Plan, let us see.

The number of sick units in the industry was more than 80,000 for the small, medium and large sick units—83,597 to be precise—and it has resulted in a loss of Rs. 3,274 crores. It is a bad record. It is not encouraging for the Government.

The number of closures was 187 and the number of workers affected is 71,370. We are depending on foreign assistance and collaborations with the multinational companies. Our record shows that the total collaboration and foreign investment Rs. 11,322 crores of rupees.

The percentage of people that we are thinking, who would be literate after the five year Plan, that is coming to a very small figure only. We wanted to achieve complete literary, or it was said that anybody in the age group of seven to fourteen years will be literate by the end of 2000 AD.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : The percentage of people below the poverty line will be doubled, and it will decline to the level of five per cent in the year 2000 AD. It may be that the other people below the poverty line will be totally washed out.

The per capita consumption of food-grains is expected to increase from 178 kg in 1984-85 to 275 kg in 1999-2000 AD.

I wonder how this Government is going to meet these problems. The people are naturally getting agitated.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please conclude. Nothing will go on record. No more now.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : The Government should carefully look into these things.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No use wasting your time; it will not be recorded.

Now, Mr. Kuppuswamy,

[*Translation*]

*SHRI C.K. KUPPUSWAMY (Coimbatore): Hon. Mr. Chairman, Sir, in support of the Seventh Five Year Plan I wish to say a few words.

At the very outset I would like to convey on behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu our gratitude to the hon. Prime Minister of India, Shri Rajiv Gandhi for having sanctioned an outlay of Rs. 5,750 crores to Tamil Nadu in the Seventh Plan. But for the intervention of the hon. Prime Minister 60% increase over the Sixth Plan investments in Tamil Nadu would not have been possible.

The principal objective of the Seventh Plan is alleviation of poverty and unemployment. This objective will be achieved under the dynamic leadership of our hon. Prime Minister. The targets in the Plan document aim at elimination of poverty, creation of conditions of near full employment, provision of basic needs of people in terms of food, clothing, shelter and access to primary health facilities,

I would like to take this opportunity to point out that the main problem of rural areas in Tamil Nadu is drinking water, I want that special attention should be paid to supply potable water to all the villages in Tamil Nadu. This target should be achieved by the end of the 7th Plan.

Secondly, the agricultural growth in Tamil Nadu is dependent on continuous and regular supply of electric power. Unfortunately there is acute paucity of power and during summer season the power cut goes to the extent of 60%. The major industries are subjected to such power cuts. It is unfortunate that the farmers are not getting power at the time they require. Hence I suggest that the Seventh Five Year Plan should pay full attention to the creation of electric power capacity in the State of Tamil Nadu.

Thirdly, Tamil Nadu has not been able to make significant industrial progress

*The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

because of the existence of metre-gauge railway line. Even after 38 years of independence no major Broadgauge Railway project has been completed. In 1981 the BG project between Karur-Dindigul and Tuticorin was sanctioned and it is progressing at snail's pace because of paucity of funds. I want that this important BG project should be completed by the end of 7th Plan as this project alone will remove the backwardness in the State of Tamil Nadu. I want that substantial allocation should be made for completing Karur-Dindigul-Tuticorin BG project before the 7th Plan comes to a close.

Fourthly, the long pending Punnampuzha-Aliyar project should be completed on a war footing. I want that adequate allocation should be made for this project.

Fifthly, I request the hon. Minister of Planning that the poverty alleviation programmes throughout the country should be implemented vigorously I want that the 7th Plan should ensure that a larger percentage of people below the poverty line is uplifted by the plan programmes. There should be regular monitoring of N R.E.P and R L.E.G.P programmes in all the States. Emphasis on the rural industries sector should be greater than what has been assigned in the 7th Plan document. Similarly, greater attention should be paid to the successful implementation of family welfare programmes. The Public Distribution systems in the country, particularly in the rural areas should be strengthened.

Before I conclude, I suggest that the supply of required raw materials like steel, coal etc. should be ensured so far as Tamil Nadu is concerned. Sometimes the coal supply to Tamil Nadu Thermal Projects is tardy. Such bottlenecks should be removed in a concerted manner.

I wish to take this opportunity to suggest that the Sethusamudram Project should be taken up during the 7th Plan, as it is strategically important for the country as a whole.

With these few words I conclude my speech.

[English]

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR (Hamirpur) : I support the Document which has been placed on the Table, entitled Seventh Five Year Plan. It is for the first time that the Government thought it fit to draw up this Plan with 15 year perspective. So, it is a precursor to other two five year plans also. They will also get guidelines from this plan.

The planning has been very much in the air since the Indian National Congress set up its National Committee on Planning in the year 1938. When Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose was the President of the Indian National Congress, Jawaharlal Nehru was called upon to head the National Committee on planning. Since then, planning has been thought as the mode of economic development of the country.

The main objectives of the Seventh Five Year Plan were highlighted by the hon. Prime Minister who is also the Chairman of the Planning Commission, Yesterday. The main thrust of the plan is removal of poverty, unemployment and acceleration of growth rate of the economy.

Actually various sectors have not been given their due in the matter of allocation. I particularly draw the attention of the Planning Minister to the allotment for transport infrastructure. IBRD has given its report and said that Indian economy is going quite well, but it has certain constraints and the major difficulty is in the area of transport infrastructure.

16.47 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH
in the chair]

Unless there is a proper appreciation of the transport network and other items of infrastructure, the nation cannot be on the move as a whole, because we are only spending now for linking all the major metropolitan cities like Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Delhi. It is called a golden quadrangle. There is a golden triangle for telecommunications i.e. Delhi-Bombay-Calcutta. There is golden triangle in every sphere. The hilly and border areas are

being left far behind. In this connection, I would invite the attention of the Planning Minister to the very poor allocations made for new railway lines. It is on page 215, Chapter 8 Rs. 350 have been allotted. If you have to complete only all the on-going works which were started in the Sixth Plan, this amount will not be sufficient even for those lines. I remember the case of Nangal Talwara line. It was 11 years ago that late L.N. Mishra laid the foundation stone of this line on 22nd December, 1974. The State Government is providing Rs. 1 crore in its budget for land and earth work for this line and the Central Government is providing Rs. 50 lakhs in the current Railway budget. It is an irony of fate that the central responsibility for development of hilly and border areas is not being accepted and discharged.

I have carefully examined the Sixteenth Chapter of this document which highlights the Government's intention to develop the hill areas. But it only lays emphasis on the Hill Area Development Programme and to the subjects which are listed in the State List. Now who is going to develop the hill areas so far as the Central List is concerned? Railway is not the concern of the State Governments, P&T is not the concern of the State Governments, Broadcasting is not the concern of the State Governments, Banking is not the concern of the State Governments. So, all these major areas should get their priority and I would request the Minister for Planning that he should remember those days, especially the day of 12th March 1965 when the National Development Council identified certain areas as hill areas and there was a notification by the Planning Commission on 9th of September 1966 that following are the areas which should be treated as priority areas of the category areas for special development. But no Central liberalisation of allotment of funds has been done so far as Central projects are concerned. So, I would request you to devise various schemes. The Telecommunications Department, for example, has divided the entire country into 29,000 hexagons of five-kilometre radius each so that a telephone could be provided within five kilometres for every village. But what has happened? Now, in the beginning of this

[Prof Narain Chand Parashar]

plan, the target has been shifted from 1990 A.D. to 2000 A.D. Only one-third of these hexagons are to be covered. So, I would plead that in those areas where the density of population is very low but which are the border areas and strategic areas, this should be revised and the target should be that the hexagons in these areas should be covered within the Seventh Five Year Plan. Similarly, I would plead earnestly that all the on-going projects, at least in the hill States, which are to receive priority as per your commitment to the nation as far back as twenty years in 1966, should be completed in the Seventh Plan. It would be a major argument in favour of the development of hill areas if the projects already started by you, sanctioned by you, approved by you, budgeted by you, and started long ago, some time in the first, second, third, or fourth year of the Sixth Plan, are included and they are completed well within the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Secondly, I would plead for a general increase, a liberal increase for the expansion of the railway system. Replacing the overaged assets is not much. Unless you connect more rural areas, more villages, more district headquarters, the industrial development of the country will not pick up. So, the railway infrastructure and the national transport infrastructure are the two very important things.

Similarly, I would plead for a larger allocation to Telecommunications Department. They had proposed a plan of Rs. 11,000 crores but what you have given is Rs. 4,000 crores. So, it has been slashed by about 70 per cent. Therefore, what I would suggest is that in certain core areas, which are the infrastructural areas, which are the areas linking up the nation, may be through telephones, or through railway lines, or through national highways, or through bridges, they should be given importance. Similarly, air linking, like Simla airport and other things which are not being given priority, should be given priority. Within these constraints, I would appeal to you for an upward revision of the sectoral allocations in favour

of these projects which are on-going. These should be completed and priority should be given to the hill areas. With these words I thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI K.N. PRADHAN (Bhopal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, since the time is very short, I would straight away come to the suggestions. The Plan is very good. Its aims and targets are very fine. Unless its targets are achieved, it cannot be called a good plan. The greatest hurdle in the achievement of the target which we have been facing right from the First Five Year Plan is the population growth rate. We are about to move into the 21st Century. We have, therefore, envisaged that we shall bring it down to 1.53%. Unless we bring the population growth rate to zero, we cannot think of prosperity in the country. If we are not able to do so even in the 21st Century, we certainly cannot achieve our aim of bringing prosperity. I would like to submit that we shall have to adopt certain deterrent/curative measures in order to reduce the population growth rate just as we adopt certain methods like taking bitter medicines or injection or undergoing operation for the treatment of a disease. Only then we shall become successful. The greatest constraint is of resources. If we do not have resources, we cannot achieve our targets howsoever fine they may be.

We had enacted the Gold Control Act in 1968. Even now, the country say that this country was known as El Dorado in the past. But I would like to say that even now this country has huge quantity of gold. According to government's estimate, 5000 tonnes of gold are available here, but the reality is that it is much more than 5000 tonnes, which can be utilised in the form of resources. If we take some bold steps to bring it under Government control in future, we can get adequate resources thereby. Sometimes an evil also proves blessing in disguise. Gold is the cause behind increase in the incidents of theft, dacoity and loot. For this very reason, women have given up wearing gold ornaments. Now most of the women wear

silver ornaments which are in great demand these days. Today, women wear silver and rolled gold ornaments. Naturally the men have started feeling that since women-folk have given up wearing gold ornaments, why should they have attachment towards it. We should have complete control over gold. Possession, sale and purchase of gold should be made a penal offence. In this way we can definitely get huge quantity of gold. You should pay compensation immediately to those who give small quantity of gold and in instalments to those who give gold in large quantity. They should also be paid handsome interest on their money. You can tell them that they can start wearing gold ornaments again in the 21st Century. In this way we shall be able to mobilise huge resources. One of its advantages will be that smuggling of gold, which is highest, will be checked and black money will be curbed. The incidents of theft, dacoity would be reduced and the incidence of crime will also come down. So, gold should be fully brought under Government control.

I have to give 2 to 3 more suggestions. There is imbalance in the Central assistance given to States for lifting the people above the poverty line. If we want to remove this imbalance, it would be better if assistance is given to a State in proportion to the number of persons living below the poverty line there instead of the population of a State. This would be helpful in removing poverty in a balanced way.

In the Sixth Five Year Plan we had fixed a target of 600 families in each Development Block who were to be given assistance. In Madhya Pradesh there were 56 lakh families. In that plan 14 lakh families got benefit and the remaining can certainly get benefit by 2000 A.D. But according to fresh directives, assistance should be given to only 200 families in each Development Block. In this way it will take 45 years to raise the standard of living of all the families above poverty line. So, you should look into this matter also.

Water is in great need today. In addition, irrigation facilities are also required

to be provided. Stop dams should also be constructed by the side of new bridges-culverts. Steps should be taken to store the water which falls into the sea. Also, new technology should be adopted to tap under-ground water resources. If we think on these lines, we shall definitely succeed in our aim. The drinking water problem will also be solved thereby and irrigation facilities will also increase considerably. While formulating irrigation scheme we should see as to whether we can include the adjacent areas into the scheme meant for providing drinking water to people.

With these words I thank you.

[English]

SHRI JAFFAR SHRIEF (Bangalore North): Today we are discussing the Seventh Five-Year Plan. I personally feel that this is an opportunity for us to introspect the whole thing.

Prof. Madhu Dandavate made a comment that it has been brought in a hurried way and the people have not been taken into confidence. Sir, he has a got point to make. I am sure that my hon. friend, Shri Indrajit Gupta will also agree with me. Sometime back in the country, there was a debate whether we should have a parliamentary democracy or presidential system. I am referring to this not for anything else. We are going through a debating democracy. Everybody wants to participate, everybody wants to speak something about their region, their constituency and their people. Sir, a time has come when we think that we have to think afresh and anew and we should certainly think out of our experience, whether we should continue with this debating democracy or we should think of functional democracy. It is the functional democracy which will give us more area to contribute in not only formulating Plan but also in its implementation. Here, I would appeal to the entire House that when we talk, when we discuss ourselves our region, about our people, we should also address ourselves that whether we should leave the entire thing only implementation by the bureaucracy or we should, as true representatives of the people, think of the

[Shri Jaffar Shrief]

present system and whether we should change the system into a functional democracy, rather than a debating society.

Here, again what is the goal? We should be proud of our forefathers and our founders who have given a planned development, which has put the country on self-reliance. We are one of the most important countries today in the developing world. It goes to our credit that what has been achieved—whatever may be the criticism, whoever may criticise either from this side or that side of the House I am quite sure that everybody will agree that India has made a name. India has achieved its objectives to be felt not only by the developing countries but even by the developed countries. It is the greatest contribution not only because of the system but also because it is the contribution of the people.

Here, what is the Plan? What is the approach of the Plan? I am of the opinion that the plan is to meet the requirements of the basic needs of the individuals and the regions. We talk that we are passing through an era where regionalism also is rising its head. Why does regionalism come in? It is because of the unbalanced development, because of the backwardness either of the people or of the region. We should bear in mind this basic factor. When we address ourselves, we should address ourselves to the basic needs also. It is here, I must pay my tribute to late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi who gave us the 20 point programme. The 20 point programme, as an anti-poverty programme, is aimed to bring the poorer people from below the poverty line to above the line. She said, "people should live as hon. citizens of this country. It is, here, I want to appeal to the Opposition that today Congress has learned a lesson while it implemented the family planning programme. Today no political party wants to talk of family planning. Unless we control the population growth...

DR. A. KALANIDHI (Madras Central): We have done it in Tamil Nadu. That is why, we are suffering.

SHRI JAFFAR SHARIEF: I am referring to those who are sitting here and who are not implementing this programme. We sit here and talk here but produce 10 children. That is not going to help unless we control the population growth, no plan will be successful. Whatever be year investment, the population explosion will engulf all the investment and we will not be able to see the fruits of the Planned development. It is here I personally feel that this should be the basic criterion of controlling the population growth. Then look to the basic needs of the people and regions. I would only refer to one point as I was associated with the railways. In the Plan, I have seen my friend Prof. Narain Chand Parashar from Himachal Pradesh was telling about the poor allocation to railways. I would appeal to the Planning Minister and he should convey it to the Prime Minister and to the Finance Minister that unless you make adequate allocations, the basic infrastructure cannot develop. Look at the way. You cannot go on increasing the freight and fares saying that it is inevitable and you have to do it. But the only way not to do it is to go in for more electrification which is our national goal. What is the total Kilometres? It is about 53,596. It is the route length. But what is the electrification? It is 6,440 KM, 8.6%. When are you going to achieve? When are you going to control? Here again, about the new lines Prof. Narain Chand Parashar has said something, I agree with him. This is two faces of the same coin. Unless there is infrastructure development, no industrial development can come. If you want industrial development, they will say that there is no infrastructure. One has to come with some conviction as in the past.

About Karnataka, my own region, it is a State which was surplus in power when we got freedom. All these strategic industries were located there because of its climate, because of the strategic importance of the area. Today while we have contributed much to the national projects, Karnataka is suffering from shortage of power. We cannot think of any industry. As many speakers have rightly pointed out, our country basically is an agricultural country. There are areas where people

are poor. There is no irrigation facility. We have not been able to develop our irrigation facility because of lack of resources. You want the State to mobilise resources. How much will they mobilise? Unless there is economic growth within the State, they cannot also contribute much. It is here the Central assistance is much more needed.

I would urge upon the planning Commission, the Government of India, to look to the needs of the Karnataka State, both in the matter of irrigation and power projects and also while we think of meeting the basic needs of the people, we must not allow further growth of the urban areas. It is going to be a problem.

I, therefore, appeal to the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, who is dynamic, to concentrate more on the rural development also so that urban areas will not get congested.

I am sure the younger and new generation will give a new look to the whole thought and think seriously whether we should have a debating democracy or we should have a national democracy.

DR. A. KALANIDHI (Madras Central): I would like to express my views on the Seventh Five Year Plan presented to this House for discussion after it is finalised. It is just like sending an invitation for a function which is already over. The Seventh Five Year Plan has almost the same priority allocation and sectoral contribution to the gross value as in the Sixth Plan. During all the four decades of the Plan modeling the Government or the Planning Commission has not chosen to change the priorities so as to raise the level of the living of the common man in India, the landless, the unemployed and under-employed proletariat. The Plan is merely a development Plan of the capitalist variety. It has no socialist pattern, it has no socialist leanings, it has no socialist framework. It is the same old home-work which has been repeated neatly. In other words, it is the old wine in a new bottle.

A mere 16.31 per cent of Rs. 180,000

crores is allotted to social services for which the Centre gives one-third and the State-two-thirds. The other allocations for Agriculture, Industry and Rural Development, which are very vital for the growth of national income, are as in the previous Plan.

In a country where there is massive poverty, the Plan should apply its resources to eradicate it at least a decade before the advent of the Twenty-first Century. This Plan and the next Plan, as it augurs well, will land the country in the Twenty-first Century with a backlog of unemployment and mass poverty.

One saving grace in this Plan is the massive investment in energy, namely, Rs. 54,821 crores, about 30 per cent of the Plan outlay, for which the States have to bear an almost equal share of investment. Perhaps, energy is the core of the development activities. The Plan has rightly stressed it, and I am quite happy about it. If we have an energy surplus by 1955 or 2000 A.D., our country will be on the high road to prosperity. In this connection I want to make a submission that Tamil Nadu has an insufficient allocation of Rs. 5,750 crores. Compared to Maharashtra, even though the land area may be small, the trend of development is almost comparable to that of Maharashtra. The insufficient allocation to Tamil Nadu will make the development process rather slow and unimpressive.

Much has been said about the Sethu samudram Project. I raised this issue in the last Lok Sabha and I have raised it in the present Lok Sabha also. Since 40 years we have been fighting for this project to be implemented. The time has now come to implement it immediately, so that this project not only serves for inland traffic but also serves as a security base, namely, naval base, as we are getting threat from the neighbouring country, Sri Lanka; we can thus protect our Tamils from the onslaught of the Sri Lankan military rule.

The Tuticorin-Karur broad gauge railway line, the Rapid Transit System for Madras and the early execution of

[Dr. A. Kalanidhi]

the Telgu-Ganga scheme will add to income generation.

I do not want to speak much about the Salem Steel Plant. When Dr. Kalaingar Karunanidhi was the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, late Shrimati Indira Gandhi laid the foundation-stone for the Salem Steel Plant. Unfortunately now it has been converted into a Steel Rolling Plant. I request the Government to take earnest action and set it as a Steel Plant and not as a Steel Rolling Plant.

When the question of southern States comes, I do not know what happens to the Government; they conveniently South India is also in the map of India; they should not forget it. Either the projects have been rudely left out or are partially undertaken. They have put hurdles for Tamil Nadu for obtaining an impressive level of growth during this Plan or during the foreseeable future. That is why, our late Founder leader Anna said, "The North is flourishing and the South is deteriorating".

The former Minister of Railways and the present Member of Lok Sabha, Shri Jaffer Sharief, has mentioned about implementation of family planning. I can remind you that, when Dr. Karunanidhi was the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, family planning programme was implemented effectively and also subsequently by the present Government, for which you have given us an award of Rs. 1 crore. But unfortunately the number of Lok Sabha seats has reduced from 40 to 39. Instead of patting us on the back, you are stabbing us. I once again say that the family planning programme should be implemented by all the religions. Religion or caste or creed should not be a bar for sterilisation. As a doctor this is my personal opinion, not my party opinion. Sterilisation should be made compulsory. Unless the family planning programme is implemented very effectively, whatever plan we may draw up, the benefits will not reach the common man.

As has been rightly pointed out by

Prof. Madhu Dandavate, this Plan is going to shatter the economy, it is going to create inflationary trends; the poor are going to become poorer and the rich are going to become richer.

So, this Plan is of capitalist variety. It is not socialistic pattern or framework.

With these few words, I conclude Sir. Thank you.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Robertsganj) : Mr. Chairman, Sir our Hon. Prime Minister rightly said yesterday that out of all the Five Year Plans, the Sixth Five Year Plan had proved a success to the maximum extent. I would like to inform you that a shattered economy was handed over to us by the Janata regime in 1980 when we introduced the Sixth Five Year Plan. At that time agricultural production had come down by 17 per cent and industrial production had come down to the level of minus 14 per cent. Efforts were made in the Sixth Five Year Plan to improve the shattered economy. You will be glad to know that we succeeded in achieving 43 per cent increase in agricultural production against a target of 3.8 per cent fixed in the Sixth Five Year Plan, despite unprecedented drought, floods and hailstorm witnessed in the years 1982 & 1983. I would, therefore, like to congratulate the Government, the Planning Commission, Hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Minister that they did not conceal the facts. While referring to increase in agricultural production, he has also concealed that in the mining and the industrial sectors we achieved a growth rate of 3.7 per cent only against a target of 6.9 per cent. So, true facts have been published for which I would like to thank the Government and the Planning Commission. A mention has also been made about the sectors in which we could not achieve the desired targets. The Opposition is using these very facts in support of their argument that our plan has failed. A Telugu Desam Member has said that this plan has no direction. Food, work and productivity are the guiding principles on which this Seventh Five Year Plan is based. I would

like to inform you that this document of the Seventh Five Year Plan will definitely help in the implementation of the Poverty Eradication Programme and in the creation of an agricultural and industrial atmosphere in the country. Not only this, this document clearly states our achievements in the agricultural sector. It clearly states that we have achieved 56 per cent production in only 1/15th part of the country. It also mentions that 70 per cent of country's area is dry land and it has to be brought under cultivation.

17.18 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER
in the Chair]

Not only this. Indication has been given in it about those things which need attention. I would like to inform you that there is need to bring about improvement and efficiency in the public sector—whether it relates to the state sector or the central sector—in which an investment to the tune of Rs. 35,000 crores has been made. What is happening today? In the name of autonomy the public sector undertakings are behaving in an arbitrary manner. The Planning Commission should scrutinise their balance sheets. A watch will have to be kept on the nepotism indulged by them while awarding contracts and making recruitment. In the name of autonomy they are indulging in various malpractices. These will have to be removed. The things have come to a pass that contracts are awarded without inviting tenders. The contracts are given to parties of their own choice. We will have to look into the shortcomings prevailing in the public sector. Recently, when our Hon. Prime Minister said that the public sector will have to show results, they started submitting wrong balance sheets. I would like to say that the Planning Commission should examine the balance sheets of those public sector undertakings also which are showing profit in order to keep control on them.

Besides, an exhaustive discussion took place on the existing reserved balances. I want to mention the case of Uttar Pradesh. The Chief Minister of Uttar

Pradesh had effectively placed the facts before the National Development Council. I would like to submit that when the First Five Year Plan was started in 1952, the per capita income of Uttar Pradesh was 16 per cent, but today Uttar Pradesh is at the bottom; only Bihar is below it.

The reason why we have lagged behind during the last three Five Year Plans is that we did not get as much central assistance as we required. As a result of that we could not create infrastructure. Not only this, we did not get the required assistance even from the financial institutions. Secondly, the assistance which you are giving to other States for special schemes was not given to Uttar Pradesh. It was because of this that the State had suggested this time that the Planning Commission should look into these factors and remove these shortcomings during the Seventh Five Year Plan. 15 districts of eastern Uttar Pradesh, 5 districts of Bundelkhand and 12 other districts of the State are de-coit-prone districts for which special assistance is needed because there are many backward districts. In this connection, a scheme with an outlay of Rs. 398 crores was submitted by the U.P. Government to the Centre. The Central Government should allocate the required funds for these districts.

Special development programmes for the tribal area of Mirzapur district of Uttar Pradesh should be started vigorously during the Seventh Five Year Plan. You have categorised the areas into six categories, viz. hill areas, desert areas, tribal areas, drought areas, flood prone areas and cyclonic areas and have formulated schemes for their development treating them as reserved areas. You will have to allocate funds to the tribal areas, hill areas, drought prone areas and flood prone areas of Uttar Pradesh also according to these norms.

Our Seventh Five Year Plan is job-oriented. I want to say that this Plan is going to solve our biggest problem—the problem of unemployment. Not only that, the plan also envisages removal of backwardness. This is a commendable step.

While referring to resources, you have

said that 4.5 per cent would come from the public sector. If you want to mobilize resources from the public sector, you will have to exercise control over this sector. You have allowed it to function as an autonomous body.

Secondly, you will have to raise resources of your own. You are going to set up agrobased industries. You will have to pay more attention to them. You will have to curb oil consumption in the country. At the same time, you will have to out your import bill.

If we go by the rate of inflation, it is very low in our country. The economy at the international level has deteriorated so much that in some countries the rate of inflation has gone up by as much as 21 per cent. We have exercised complete control over inflation and we have been able to bring it to seven per cent. Is it not an achievement? Our brothers in the opposition do not see it.

Shri Madhu Dandavate, while speaking, had said that the Planning Commission has not yet approved the Seventh Plan document and it was laid on the Table of the House for discussion, which was a wrong precedent. He is completely wrong in saying so. This was not a precedent which could be called wrong. Sir, the Members of the opposition cast aspersions on the Government without any basis.

Our Planning Commission has clearly indicated in this document the sectors in which there have been some shortcomings and also the sectors in which we have lagged behind. They have also given suggestions in that regard. I want to request all the hon. Members to take this thing seriously and extend their full cooperation in making this Plan a success. We talk of entering into the 21st Century, but we must enter into it fully prepared, then only the welfare of the country and of the coming generation is possible.

STATEMENT RE : NON-EXTENSION OF THE TERM OF THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY APPOINTED BY GOVERNMENT OF MADHYA PRADESH ON THE BHOPAL GAS LEAK DISASTER.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO CHEMICALS (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : Some Hon'ble Members raised the question about the non-extension of the term of the Commission of Inquiry appointed by the Madhya Pradesh Government to inquire into the Bhopal gas leakage disaster which occurred on the night intervening 2nd/3rd December, 1984. This House is aware that this Commission of Inquiry was appointed by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh on 6th Dec., 1984. The term of the Commission was initially fixed upto 15th March, 1985. This was subsequently extended upto 15th December, 1985. The term has now expired and the Government of Madhya Pradesh has not extended the term.

The State Government appears to have come to its decision of not extending the term of the Commission for the following reasons:

- (i) At the instance of the Central Government, Dr. S. Varadarajan Secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research of the Govt. of India along with a team of experts of high standing numbering 16, including Dr. Varadarajan, commenced and inquiry into the causes of the Bhopal gas leakage disaster and the circumstances leading to it and other matters connected therewith. Dr. Varadarajan and his team of experts has now submitted a report to the Central Government on the causes and circumstances leading to the Bhopal gas leakage disaster and other matters connected therewith. This report has been accepted by the Central Govern-