

(a) whether any steps have been initiated on the basis of outcome of the meeting held on 19 August, 1989;

(b) if so, the district-wise development plans contemplated for the development of Pauri Garhwal, Chamoli, Uttar Kashi and Dehradun;

(c) the funds earmarked for them, if any;

(d) if not, the measures being adopted for all round development of these hill districts of Uttar Pradesh; and

(e) whether the Planning Commission propose to set up sub-committee of the Planning Commission to go into the peculiar problems of these districts with a view to suggest concrete measures for the economic development?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) A meeting of the Members of Parliament representing the Himalayan Region was held on 19th August, 1987 to discuss problems and prospect of the development of Himalayas. The specific observations/suggestions made by the Honourable members were forwarded to the concerned State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments for appropriate action. The suggestions that were general in nature, were kept in view in the Mid-term Appraisal of the Seventh Five Year Plan, already laid on the Table of the House on 22.3.1988.

(b) and (c). The districts of Pauri Garhwal, Uttar Kashi and Dehradun fall under the Hill Area Development Programme (HADP) for which special central assistance is provided by Central Government. In order to strengthen and supplement the efforts being made by the concerned State Governments, the HADP was mooted by the Central Government. However, the responsibility of bringing about

faster economic development rests with the concerned State Government. The funds for these districts are provided by the State Government in their Plan.

(d) The general approach in the Eighth Plan is to avoid a series of Special Area Development Programmes as in the Seventh Plan and have, instead, general rural development done on the basis of decentralised area planning by local bodies. In the hill areas, hill development will be the accent in local development. The Centre will continue to assist in providing sufficient technical and other inputs to local authorities in fragile areas to draw up and implement ecologically sound programmes of area development on a sustained basis.

(e) No, Sir.

Clearance for Konni-Achencoil Road in Kerala

5971. **SHRI SURESH KODIKKUNNIL:** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal from Kerala Government regarding construction of Konni-Achencoil Road is pending for clearance before the Union Government.

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in granting approval; and

(c) the likely time by which approval will be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.