

MR. SPEAKER: I have not allowed them. Mr. Vikhe Patil.

Central Assistance to States

*508. SHRI E. V. VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 128 on the 28th February, 1973 regarding requests by States for revision of formula of Central Assistance to States and state:

(a) whether any principles have now been laid down for giving Assistance by the Central Government to the States during the Fifth Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the broad principle laid down?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Principles for allocating Central assistance among States in the Fifth Five Year Plan are still under consideration in the Planning Commission.

(b) Does not arise.

श्री ई० वी० बिल पाटिल : 28 फरवरी को सरकार की ओर से उत्तर में बताया गया था कि केन्द्रीय सहायता के अन्तर्गत चौथी पंच-वर्षीय योजना का पूरा पैसा स्टेट्स को एलाट कर दिया गया है और पांचवीं पंच-वर्षीय योजना के लिए तत्सम्बन्धी प्रिंसिपल्ज को रिवाइज किया जा रहा है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि वे प्रिंसिपल्ज कब तक फाइनलाइज हो जायेंगे। इस बजट में पांचवीं पंच-वर्षीय योजना के अन्तर्गत एडवांस एक्शन के लिए जो 150 करोड़ रुपया रखा गया है, वह किन प्रिंसिपल्ज के आधार पर स्टेट्स को बांटा जायेगा? मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि स्टेट्स को जो सेंट्रल एसिस्टेंस दी जाती है, उसमें प्रधानता किस बात को दी जायेगी—सूखाग्रस्त क्षेत्रों में सिंचाई योजनाओं को, या औद्योगिक पिछड़ेपन को, या कृषि उत्पादन को।

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Sir, the amount of Rs. 150 crores for advance action in the terminal year of the fourth five year Plan is to create a proper base and to take care of our irrigation, power and other basic core sector. Regarding the principles of Central assistance for the fifth five year Plan, this matter is being considered and ultimately it is the National Development Council which has to take a decision as to what should be the Central assistance. However, I can assure the hon. Member that, as we have stated in our approach to the fifth five year Plan document, all possible priority will be given to backward areas, and the people from the backward sections in society including the drought-prone areas where they have to suffer because of these droughts.

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडे : क्या यह सही नहीं है कि स्टेट्स को जो सेंट्रल एसिस्टेंस दी जाती है, उस में उत्तर प्रदेश को उसकी जनसंख्या के हिसाब से 1969 से आज तक कोई एसिस्टेंस नहीं दी गई है? इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार ने क्या प्रिंसिपल्ज निर्धारित किये हैं—वह किस बसिस पर सेंट्रल एसिस्टेंस देना चाहती है? अगर उत्तर प्रदेश या अन्य राज्यों का जाने वाली केन्द्रीय सहायता में कोई कमी है, तो क्या उस को पूरा किया जायेगा?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Sir, the Central assistance given so far is on the basis of the formula, 60 per cent of which, as we have stated on many occasions, is based on population, 10 per cent on the backwardness of the State, 10 per cent for the spill-over schemes, 10 per cent for tax efforts having regard to the per capita income and 10 per cent for special problems like drought, flood and others. While considering the fifth five year Plan, we are well aware of the demands coming particularly from the backward States, and I have no doubt that the Government will take care in order to render proper assistance.

SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any discrimination between Maharashtra and other States so far as power is concerned, because, recently, the Minister of Irrigation and Power himself admitted that "I have got only the Power Ministry and I have no political power behind me to sanction schemes." He has expressed his inability. Is it a fact the Planning Minister as well as the Finance Minister are not extending any help to Andhra Pradesh which, as you know, is also a backward area and it is experiencing an unprecedented drought condition?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: The Central Government is interested in the balanced growth of the whole of the country and I can assure the hon. Member that there was no discrimination and there will be no discrimination whether it is Andhra, Maharashtra or Tamilnadu or West Bengal.

डा० गोविन्दबास रिछारिया : अभी तक पंच-वर्षीय योजनाओं में केन्द्रीय सहायता के अन्तर्गत जो रुपया बितरित किया गया है, आबादी के हिसाब से उसका वितरण न होने के कारण उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार जैसे प्रदेश पीछे रह गये हैं। क्या सरकार पांचवीं पंच-वर्षीय योजना में ऐसे सिद्धान्त बनाएगी, जिन के अनुसार इन राज्यों को समानता के आधार पर रुपया मिल सके? क्या सरकार ने यह सिद्धान्त स्वीकार कर लिया है कि पांचवीं पंच-वर्षीय योजना में बिजली और सिंचाई योजनाओं को प्राथमिकता दी जायेगी? जो पिछड़े हुए प्रदेश हैं, या जो प्रदेशों के पीछड़े हुए हिस्से हैं, क्या पांचवीं पंच-वर्षीय योजना में उन को इतना रुपया दिया जायेगा कि वे दूसरे क्षेत्रों के समान स्तर पर आ जायें?

SHRI MOHAN DHARI: I have already stated the formula on which the Central assistance is given; sixty per cent of it is on the basis of population. So far as the Fifth Plan is concerned, as has been asked by the hon. Member, we shall lay emphasis on irrigation and power projects all over the country, particularly in backward areas if I may bring it to the notice of the hon. Members, the national programme on minimum needs is from that point of view and if the backward villages and their difficulties are identified I have no doubt that priority will go to the backward areas. Besides, I can assure the House that it will be our endeavour to see that those who are lagging behind will be given all possible help from the Centre.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: North Bengal is a backward area and I should like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government had sanctioned any assistance during the Fifth Plan for the development of North Bengal, especially the tribal areas and backward areas of West Bengal?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: It is a separate question but for the information of the hon. Member I can say that what we do is to give grants on the basis of block grants. In the Fifth Plan we should like to discuss with the State Governments so that we can take into consideration the problems of the backward areas also.

Economic Cooperation between India and other countries on the pattern of Indo-Soviet Commission

*509. **SHRI SAMAR GUHA:** Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether organisational pattern on the lines of Indo-Soviet Commission for economic cooperation exists between India and any other country other than Bangla Desh; and