

63

-2-

priority of UT Administration. There was requirement of substantial outlay in the energy sector for creation of more power generation capacity. Further PRIs had to be provided with buildings and offices etc. The thrust in Rural Development sector was on PRIs.

Besides the continuing schemes, Lt Governor said that Rs. 415 crore are required for 88 new schemes during the 9th Plan. Among the new schemes a major scheme in the shipping sub-sector is regarding construction of Dry Dock / Floating Dry Dock which will cost around Rs. 100 crore. The scheme for creation of Police marine Force will need nearly Rs. 40 crore. The force was required keeping in view the strategic location of Islands and to prevent poaching etc. UT Administration is laying emphasis on Cooperative Dairy Development and it is proposed to give 6000 improved breed animals to the farmers. The unemployment problem in UT is getting acute since there are no major industries in the Islands. Supply of timber is decreasing which is also affecting wood based industries. The matter regarding grant of Transport subsidy is being pursued with the Ministry of Industry. He requested the Deputy Chairman to consider the demand of UT Administration for a plan outlay of Rs. 2400 crore.

Deputy Chairman pointed out that the approved outlay of the UT for 8th Plan was Rs. 685 crore at 1991-92 prices and against which anticipated expenditure was Rs. 676.29 crore at 1991-92 prices (Rs. 1030 crore at 1996-97 prices). Normally an increase of 30 % over the anticipated expenditure of the 8th Plan was being considered for the 9th Plan, which works out to Rs. 1340 crore (at 1996-97 prices). However, after detailed discussion, considering the special problems of the UT the plan size was agreed at Rs. 1535 crore.

Member (J.S. Bajaj) pointed out the deficiencies in providing health care. He urged for suitable allocations for this sector. He stated that the proposal of Administration for Ayurveda hospital could be supported provided the acceptability of this system was established. He enquired about the progress of 'The Planned Family Scheme' under operation in the UT and observed that any changes from the originally conceived scheme be made after careful study and proper assessment. He expressed concern about the disparity in the development between Andaman and Nicobar group of Islands. 69 % of total tribal population lives in the Nicobar group of Islands which is lagging behind in various areas of development. He emphasised the importance of disaggregated planning and for giving particular attention to removing regional imbalances amongst the Islands. He also observed that the UT Administration has not been able to utilise the funds available under National Aids Control Programme and urged the Administration to pay greater attention to this especially keeping in view the large number of migrants coming to the UT. Member (GT) also drew attention to the disparities in various facilities available in Andaman & Nicobar group of Islands and urged the Administration to tackle this problem.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.