

tea industry and to ensure availability of tea for export and domestic consumption. A provision of Rs. 54 lakhs has been made for grant of loans under the Tea Plantation Finance Scheme and a provision of Rs. 55 lakhs has been made for grant of loans under the Tea Machinery Hire Purchase Scheme during the current financial year. For the Replantation Subsidy Scheme, a provision of Rs. 43.60 lakhs has been made during the current financial year.

SOVIET HELP FOR SETTING UP NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS IN INDIA

1086. SHRI BALACHANDRA MENON: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Soviet Union has offered its help in setting up nuclear power stations in India;

(b) if so, the terms of the offer; and

(c) whether the Government of India have accepted the offer ?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

EXPANSION TO EXTERNAL AID AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

1087. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN :
SHRI S. SIVAPRAKASAM :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of India have any proposal under their consideration to expand external aid and technical assistance programme to provide more technicians and machinery to developing countries; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) It is the Government's policy to expand and promote economic cooperation with friendly developing countries through expansion of technical and economic assistance commensurate with India's resources and capabilities in this regard. Such assistance is extended bilaterally as well as through such organisations as the Colombo Plan, Special Commonwealth Assistance to Africa Programme (SCAAP),

Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme, etc. to about 40 developing countries in Asia and Africa. The value of such assistance rendered during 1967-68 amounted to Rs. 86 lakhs and is estimated at Rs. 108 lakhs during 1968-69.

MR. DAVID HACOEN'S STATEMENT ABOUT INDIAN SUPPORT FOR ARABS

1088. SHRI T. SIDDALINGAYA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. David Hacoen, Leader of the Israeli delegation to International Parliamentary Union held in India last month stated in a news conference held at Delhi that "India is giving blind support to the Arabs and is unfair to Israel"?

(b) if so, what is the Government of India's reaction to this; and

(c) whether the Government of India are thinking of reshaping their relationship with Israel *vis-a-vis* the Arabs ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) News reports to this effect have come to the attention of Government.

(b) There is no specific reaction. The Government of India do not favour settlement of international disputes by force nor that the aggressor should be permitted to retain the fruits of aggression. The Government of India's support to the Arab position rests on these principles.

(c) No, Sir.

EXPORT OF TEXTILE MACHINERY

1089. SHRIMATI SARLA BHADARIA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India export textile machinery to some foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the names of countries to which the textile machinery is exported and the value thereof during 1969-70 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is attached. (*See below*)