

# KRISHAK SAMACHAR

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## Seventeenth Convention at Hyderabad

The seventeenth national convention of Farmers and 30th all India farmers Council meeting is being held at Sarojani Devi Hall, Ram Kote, Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh). Relevant programme and concessions etc. have already been despatched to all members.

The convention will be held on 25th and 26th of June, 1977. A national seminar on 'Self-reliant agricultural development' is also being held simultaneously with the convention. All members are requested to attend the convention and Seminar.

**Dr. D.A. Bholay**  
*Secretary General*

## No Crop Insurance

Hoshiarpur : Prime Minister Morarji Desai said that the crop insurance scheme would not be introduced until the crops production stabilised. Mr. Desai said he would not like to make false promises and wanted the people not to seek such promises.

He said the State Governments would provide the relief to farmers, whose crops were damaged by hailstorms and unseasonal rains. It was not possible for the Centre to provide relief every time when there was such a problem. It was people's money which had to be spent on people's welfare he said.

## Editorial

### Multi-pronged plan for raising kharif output

New Delhi : The Centre has suggested to the State Governments a multipronged production strategy for the coming kharif season aimed at increasing the overall productivity and to minimise fluctuations in agricultural production.

The strategy has been evolved by the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation after a review of the production programmes undertaken by a number of Central teams sent to the States.

The States have also been advised to prepare a coordinated action programme between the department of agriculture and various other agencies, including agricultural universities and departments of irrigation and power.

The strategy would vary under different situations prevailing in States but would include six broad aspects.

They are (1) Identification of suitable high-yielding varieties and increase in the coverage under them ; (2) arrangement for timely supplies of various inputs and their efficient and larger utilisation ; (3) arrangement of production credit ; (4) co-ordination with various concerned departments ; (5) organisation of training programme for extension workers and farmers by agricultural universities and the concerned departments ; and (6) advice to farmers about the proper and timely preparation of seed beds and adoption of suitable methods for sowing.

Line sowing of rice followed by proper weeding and top dressing of fertilisers is another component of the strategy that has been recommended for increasing production.

A programme of demonstration with improved implements, in order to introduce and popularise the right type of implements for proper land preparations and line sowing (instead of broadcasting) of rice, is being continued this year also in Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa. It is being extended to eastern UP and West Bengal, where sizable areas are at present under broadcasting sowing. The States have also been advised to concretise the technology for bajra, maize and sorghum.

As regards pulses, it has been suggested that tur is the most important kharif pulse in many States. Its production can be stepped up considerably by proper application of fertilisers. A special campaign in the selected districts for application of a basal dose of phosphatic fertilisers to groundnut has also been emphasised to increase the yield of this crop.



## Haryana Krishak Samaj executive meet

Rohtak : The executive committee of Haryana Krishak Samaj met on 17.4.1977. The meeting was presided by Smt. Daya Chaudhari. 15 executive members including Capt. Charan Singh, Secretary and Mr. J. L. Dalal, Joint Secretary attended the meeting.

Printing of 3000 life membership identity cards was finalised. A committee of three was constituted for audit of accounts and enrolling more life members. It was also resolved to request the Government to charge the fix rate for electricity on horse power basis. Registration fee on tractors be reduced by 50 per cent and token tax on tractors should also be withdrawn.

The price of wheat at Rs. 110 is not regarded remunerative to the farmers in view of high price of inputs. The committee demands that the Haryana State should fall in line with Centre. The prices of Agriculture implements, fuel and fertilizer and other inputs be reduced, so that farmers may adopt mechanized farming.

The supply of electricity and canal water should be ensured. As the weather is most precarious in the present thrashing season, so the supply of electricity should be regularized and constant for thrashing purposes.

It was resolved that the cost of lining of Khals should not be realized from the farmers because the Government has already increased Abiana to a very higher rate. With more canal under irrigation would bring more Abiana to the Government. Further the pucca Khals under all circumstances be on Killa Bandi line and not in a zig-zag way, so that lands on both sides is fully ploughed and utilized. Any amendment in the Canal Act and Minor Irrigation Act should be incorporated if there is any necessity. The State Government may be requested for financial aid to the Farmers Forum as was a practice in the past. The next general meeting of the Haryana Krishak Samaj is fixed at Bhiwani on 17-8-77 at 11 A.M.

### Problems of Karnataka Sugarcane Growers

The Second Executive Committee of the Karnataka Pradesh Sugarcane Growers Federation was held at Bangalore on 13.5.77 Sri

V.N. Gowda, Treasurer of the Federation presided over. The Following decisions have been taken.

1. To request the State Government for creating a separate Department to look after the construction and maintenance of the roads in the Sugar Factory Areas in Karnataka, create a separate fund for the developmental activities like construction of roads and research and developmental activities.
2. It has been decided to hold State Level Convention of Karnataka Pradesh Sugar-Cane Federation at Bangalore in August, 77 to prepare a charter of demands relating to Remunerative Sugarcane Price and supply of inputs at reasonable rates for the production of Sugarcane.

### Gurgaon Krishak Samaj

A meeting of the Executive Committee was held on the 13 April 1977 at the residence of Ch. Partap Singh Thakran, Major D.D. Yadav presided. The meeting was held to appoint committee to watch the procurement of wheat through the traders by the Government officers, but the announcement of increase in price from Rs. 105/- to Rs. 110/- per qtl and free movement of wheat and its products throughout the county mitigated the chances of malpractices. The following resolutions were passed unanimously :

Great resentment was shown by the members on short supply of electricity and its breakage at intervals specially in the peak season. Wheat is being threshed and the electricity is regularly required at night for this. The Executive Engineer Electricity is requested to guarantee its proper supply. Condition in government hospitals is very unsatisfactory. The C.M.O. Gurgaon is requested to pay special attention to this point. Early steps should be taken to improve the sanitary condition of the rural area included in the limit of Municipal committee. Meter readers often do not actually visit on the spot giving imaginary figures which caused great loss to the consumer. Meter readers should be strictly warned and directed to visit the spot and give correct reading.

### Khargone Krishak Samaj

K.K.S. meeting was held on 25.4.1977. Shri M.S. Khanuja presided over. Some resolutions were also passed and letters received



from government departments regarding farmers were read out in the meeting, Kisan diary of 1978 should be brought out by November, 1977. About 307 life members were enrolled during 1976-77. Target for L.M. for 1977-78 was kept 1,000 and 2,500 ordinary members.

President Mr. M.S. Khanuja suggested that Tehsil Krishak Samaj should be made self sufficient by opening farmers input sale services etc. Propagating the use of compost manure, farmers demonstrations are being organised by Krishak Samaj. Samaj earned Rs. 1600 by way of General Insurance scheme. This scheme should be extended upto tehsil level.

Mr. Amba Ram Mukati suggested that Memorandum-cum-circulars should be continued to help farmers and follow Government departments.

One-day in a week power shedding is tantamount to loss to farmers, hence electricity department may be requested to stop power-shedding.

To train the farmers about tractor driving and repairs one camp at Khargone may be organised. This will help farmers to get licence etc. M.P. Transport Corporation buses should paste fare list and printed tickets should be given to passengers because most of the illiterate farmers are cheated by conductors.

The central government should be requested to reduce the input prices by 20 to 40 per cent.

*Letter to the editor*

## Constant Electric Supply

Farmers in U.P. are getting electricity only for 3 to 7 hours a day, while the basic necessity in U.P. is 1839 mgw. Now the production of electricity is reduced to only 1200 mgw. The electric supply of 3 to 7 hours is also not constant. It is given in parts. The supply should be made available at least 10 to 16 hours a day to clear the heaps of crops by threshing and winnowing in bad weather. From July to September less electricity is required, hence the quota for industrial purposes can be extended in these months.

Padam Singh  
Village Shyampur  
(Meerut)

## National Seminar on "Self-Reliant Agricultural Development"

Bharat Krishak Samaj has been putting forward the farmers point of view on various occasions in the past before various quarters for adequate redress. One of the most important demands put forth is that of giving remunerative agricultural prices to the farmers. Farmer's Self-Reliant approach to his agricultural development will always remain basic and the first mile-stone to cross on the path of sustained progress.

The aim of the Seminar will be better achieved provided many of our farmers come out openly giving their personal experiences of success and failures arriving at some calculated tangible directions. All the teeming millions of farmers will be grateful if a sense of self-confidence is built up in them through the discussions and conclusions of this seminar through hard earned indications for Self-Reliant Agricultural Development.

All State, District and Block Units of the Samaj and all members of the Samaj are requested to come prepared to report in Convention on various activities undertaken by them in their areas for increasing agricultural production, stopping wastage and adopting austerity in life. The members of the Samaj who wish to contribute in the discussions at the Seminar during the Convention are requested to inform the Secretary General, Bharat Krishak Samaj at the earliest together with two copies each of their paper with salient points.

## Khadi body to be self-reliant

*New Delhi* : The Prime Minister, Mr Morarji Desai, urged the Khadi and Village Industries Commission to submit to the Government a clearout policy which not only aimed at strengthening the industry but also generated employment.

Addressing the heads of khadi institutions Mr. Desai regretted that everyone made demands and sought Government assistance. One never thought in terms of what one could contribute to society but instead harped on what others should do. This attitude must change, he said, and was not in keeping with Gandhiji's teachings and ideals.



Mr. Desai said his party was committed to following the Gandhian path and "if we do not make sincere efforts in this direction it would only be empty talk. The promotion of khadi and village industries should be taken up with single-minded devotion."

Mr. Desai said the big and medium-sized industry also played its part in the development of a nation. For man's progress, these were necessary factors. He said though the majority of our population lived in the villages, more importance had been given to the cities. "We have to change the complexion of our villages. People in rural areas are ever willing to work unlike the city dweller. It is up to the khadi workers to import proper knowledge to the rural folk."

### **New Zealand-aided H-P livestock project opened**

*New Delhi* : Letters establishing a project for livestock improvement at Palampur were exchanged between the Governments of India and New Zealand. Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, Director-General, I.C.A.R. and Dr. C. C. Aikman, High Commissioner for New Zealand, signed the document.

The Government of New Zealand has provided frozen semen. Jersey cows and bulls, farm machinery and laboratory equipment. There is a provision for training of scientific staff in New Zealand under the project. The total contribution of New Zealand Government in this project is about N.Z. \$ 600,000.

The project's main objective is improving the profitability and credit-worthiness of dairy farming in the State. Under the project, genetically superior livestock of New Zealand will be cross-bred with Indian cattle.

A Jersey herd of proven scientific merit for milk production as foundation stock has been established at Palampur, and the cross-breeding programme started for improving the milk production of local cows.

For covering a large number of cows, frozen semen from pedigree-bulls will be used. The project programme provides for training of scientists in handling the freezing of semen and of technicians in the technique of artificial insemination.

### **National Seeds project**

*New Delhi* : The World Bank-aided National Seeds Project, launched by the Union Agriculture Ministry and National Seeds Corpora-

tion, with high hopes of building up a "sound and advanced" seed industry in the country, has run into troubled waters.

The project's first phase of establishing State seed corporations in Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Maharashtra and Punjab is hardly through and the entire programme's viability and aims have been questioned by the Planning Commission and project appraisal departments of the Ministry.

### **Desert taming techniques show results**

*Jodhpur* : The technology to tame the desert and increase the productivity of its areas has begun to spread.

The scientists of the CAZRI have demonstrated that far from being an economic liability, the desert areas have a vast potential to contribute to the nation's economy. The work taken up by the institute under the project include sand dune stabilisation, pasture development, shelter belt programme, improved technology of rabi and kharif crops, horticulture, rodent control, sheep development and water management. India has an area of about 3.2 lakh sq. km of hot desert and 9.6 lakh sq. km of semi-arid area. Besides, the cold desert of Ladakh occupies 0.7 lakh sq. km. Over 19 million people inhabit these areas.

A major hazard of the desert dweller is the moving sand dune—barchan dunes as they are called. High velocity winds carry the sand particles from these vast crescent shaped dunes, burying cultivable lands and village houses. The havoc caused by the massive movement of sand is best seen in Udayramsar, above 15 km from Bikaner, where an entire building complex, which was once upon a sanatorium for tuberculosis patients, now lies buried under huge heaps of sand. These dilapidated buildings now form part of a 180-hectare area taken up by CAZRI scientists to demonstrate sand dune stabilisation work.

The area, which became desolate and barren, has become verdant again, full of trees and grasses. The movement of these dunes have thus been stopped.

The effectiveness of sand dune stabilisation is also seen in Shivbari village on Bikaner Jodhpur Road. The dunes which once threatened to engulf the village are now a vast green patch, full of fodder trees and grasses.



## **Govt. relaxes rule to buy soaked wheat**

*New Delhi* : About 1.8 million tonnes of freshly harvested wheat lying on the farms have been damaged in the recent unseasonal rains in U.P., Rajasthan. M.P., Punjab and Haryana.

A substantial quantity of wheat has also deteriorated because of poor storage.

Consequently, their sale to procurement agencies has created some problems as these agencies are under instructions to buy wheat of certain specifications.

The Government has, therefore, liberalised the specifications for procurement, and has taken a tentative decision to fix a procurement target (reported to be 4.5 million tonnes) so that farmers are assured of a remunerative price.

## **Marginal farmers redefined**

The definition of small and marginal farmers has been revised on the basis of crops produced and irrigation facilities available.

As a result of the revision, farmers in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Rajasthan will be benefited.

Under the Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) small and marginal farmers are provided assistance in the form of subsidy for soil and moisture conservation, development of private irrigation sources, distribution of milch animals, sheep, poultry and pigs, agricultural machinery, inputs and plant protection equipment.

The redefinition has become necessary because in the areas chronically affected by drought due to low productivity of land and mostly protective irrigation, the average sizes of holdings are higher and the coverage of small and marginal farmers under the existing definition has not been adequate.

Accordingly, in districts covered under the DPA P, irrigated holdings up to 1.5 hectares in both arid and semi-arid areas and unirrigated holdings up to seven hectares in arid areas and three hectares in semi-arid areas have been classified as small holdings.

In Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan unirrigated holdings up to 10 hectares have been treated as small holdings in view of the arid conditions prevailing in that region. Moreover, holdings up to half of the ceilings fixed for small far-

mers will be treated as marginal holdings for purposes of higher subsidy admissible under the programmes.

## **Ratoons help raise sugar yield**

*Lucknow* : Ratoon cultivation, if properly managed, can be a source of cheaper sugar production to an extent of about 30 per cent compared to sugar produced from sugarcane.

This conclusion has been arrived at by the scientists of the Indian Institute of Sugarcane Research, here, who have succeeded in evolving a package of practices for increasing the sugarcane yield from ratoon crop.

Ratoon cultivation can effect saving in terms of seed and preparatory tilage operations. Ratoon crop also gives better sugar recovery in the early part of the crushing season over the plant cane.

## **\$10m IDA loan for M.P.**

*New Delhi* : Agricultural extension and research in Madhya Pradesh will be strengthened with the assistance of a credit of \$10 million (Rs. nine crore) from the International Development Association.

The \$20.9 million (about Rs. 18.8 crore) is directed towards achieving, in the short term, sustained growth in agricultural output, particularly food grains in 15 of the 45 districts of Madhya Pradesh covering about seven million hectares of cropped land. The project will emphasize the consolidation and strengthening of the State's agricultural extension services and help reorient adaptive agricultural research to provide farmers, on a regular systematic basis, with advance on farming practices having an immediate impact on yields. The project will be executed over a five-year period.

## **FCI to ensure fair rabi price**

*New Delhi* : The Food Corporation of India has asked its regional offices to remain alert during the rabi price support operations and see that traders or the commission agents did not indulge in unfair practices at the cost of the farmers.

In a letter to the regional managers, the FCI Chairman, Mr. R. N. Chopra, has said that farmers should not allowed to suffer under any circumstances and they must get at least Rs. 110-per quintal in the market and purchasing centres for grade one wheat.



Mr. Chopra's letter follows discussions at the FCI head office here on the implications of the new wheat policy announced by the Government recently.

### **Fruit export to be banned**

**Bombay :** The Centre will take immediate steps to ban exports of vegetables, fruits, potatoes etc.

An assurance to this effect was given by Mr. Mohan Dharia Union Minister for Commerce, Co-operation and Civil Supplies in New Delhi to Mr. Madhu Mehta, national convener of the Hindustani Movement when the latter called on him.

Mr. Mehta said in a Press statement today: "In our anxiety to earn foreign exchange, we have started exporting essential commodities like vegetables, fruits, potatoes etc. mainly to Arab countries.

### **15,000 crore irrigation plan**

**Hoshiarpur.** Prime Minister Morarji Desai said that the Centre was considering a national irrigation scheme involving an investment of between Rs. 15,000 crore and Rs. 20,000 crore which would cover the country's entire irrigation system.

He told that the scheme had been brought to him some time ago. It would not only cover entire irrigation requirements but also would provide waterways for use in transportation.

About the Thein dam project, he said the Centre would consult the popular Governments in the concerned States before taking any decision.

### **No-cut in Land Ceiling**

**New Delhi.** Step-motherly treatment to the agriculture sector in Plan allocation had been the bane of the Indian economy, Mr Charan Singh, Union Home Minister, told a meeting of the Farmer's Federation of India. He said there was no move to reduce the maximum size of holdings.

Of the First Plan's allocation, 37 per cent went to agriculture, thanks to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, a peasant's son who had himself tilled the soil. But following a visit to China soon after Sardar Patel's death, Nehru decided to have a socialist society and totally reversed priorities.

In the Second Five-Year Plan, allocation to agriculture went down from 37 per cent to 18 per cent, while that of industry increased from 5 per cent to 23.4 per cent. And that pattern remained ever since, even through Jawaharlal Nehru in 1963, when the country was deep in debt, acknowledged the mistake in building up heavy industry at the cost of agriculture resulting in import of foodgrains.

While pleading for greater agricultural productivity, Mr Charan Singh ruled out support prices for produce, as was the practice of affluent nations in the west. He said prices would crash—but up to a point. However, support prices did not solve any problem. Export could take care of surplus production, though the ministry would remain the domestic market.

Mr Charan Singh said there were two alternatives—either to produce our own steel and import food or vice versa. The second alternative was by far the most important. Thousands of crores of rupees were spent on foodgrain imports for something the country could so easily produce and export. Mr. Nehru's idea that machines were the root of economic progress was wrong. People seemed to think huge factories only symbolised progress, and not a productive and prosperous agricultural sector. This attitude had filtered down to the farmer, who thought working with hands was a sign of backwardness.

### **Ban on Onion Exports**

**New Delhi.** The Central government has banned the export of onion with immediate effect until further notice.

### **Central aid for soil Conservation**

**New Delhi.** The Union Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation has sanctioned Rs. 11 lakh for the implementation of the Centrally sponsored schemes of soil conservation works during 1976-77, in 15 approved watersheds of the catchment of the Tungabhadra in Karnataka.

The pattern of Central assistance is half loan and half grant.

The sanction is part of an over-all scheme under the Ministry for soil conservation in the catchment areas of major river valley projects all over the country.



## Surplus Indian stocks in FAO

*New Delhi.* The Director-General of the F.A.O. Dr Edouard Saouma, said that he had held "preliminary general discussions" with Indian officials whereby India might allow some of its foodstocks to be loaned through the F.A.O. to nearby countries at times of need.

Congratulating India as being the first country to reach the "safe stock level" of 17 to 18 per cent of annual needs laid down by the F.A.O., Dr Saouma said that if the Government wanted to increase the stock from the 18 million tonnes level and experienced difficulties of finance etc then some of it could be held for the World Food Programme.

Answering questions from newsmen towards the end of a two-day visit, the Director-General said that as yet the scheme to arrange regional foodstocks had not got under way since "some countries are not prepared to accept international guarantees." Also, the rich countries have as yet not done anything to implement the recommendation that 18 per cent of annual consumption should be held in stock though they agree to it in principle.

Dr. Saouma spoke about the FAO's plans to minimise losses of foodgrains after harvest. He estimated that by 1985 these losses could, at about 10 per cent of the harvest, reach 85 million tonnes a year worth about £7,500 million. The FAO had earmarked £20 million to fund schemes designed to test projects to diminish these losses, and some of these schemes were slated for trial in India.

He said that it was easier to raise net consumption through such measures than through increased yields and acreage since the cost of the latter methods were now rising very steeply. Protecting food after harvest was a priority with the FAO and it would be combined with another scheme to persuade countries to build and maintain their own foodgrain stocks.

Dr Saouma disclosed that the FAO would organise a world rural development conference in 1979 for which he had asked the Indian Government to provide data and analysis on the basis of Indian experience. He referred especially to the pilot project undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture to study in 20 districts constraints in rural developments.

## Task force for Fertiliser Promotion

*New Delhi.* A 14-member task force has been set up by the Union Agriculture and Irrigation Ministry to ensure efficient implementation of the intensive fertiliser promotion campaign during the forthcoming kharif and rabi seasons.

The group will ensure that adequate number of fertiliser outlets are opened in each district selected for the campaign and they are stocked with required quantities of fertilisers. It will also sort out movement problems and ensure sufficient credit arrangements timely availability of seeds, pesticides and weedicides. It will also strengthen extension and farm information, soil testing facilities and facilitate maximum utilisation of the available irrigation potential.

The task force will hold monthly meetings to review the implementation of the programme and take necessary remedial steps. State Governments have also been advised to set up similar groups at State level.

The Intensive Fertiliser Promotion Campaign was launched in May last year in 58 selected districts. Sixty-six districts have been selected this year to be covered under the programme.

## People's Plan

### Strategy to meet basic needs in 10 years

*New Delhi.* People's Plan II, released on 15 May, by the Finance Minister, Mr. H.M. Patel, has set out a planning strategy which will meet the basic consumption needs of the people within 10 years.

The minimum needs include wage goods, welfare services, housing and drinking water supply. The Plan has stipulated that after this target had been met, the thrust of planning during the next ten years would be to bring about a qualitative improvement in the goods and services brought within the reach of the people.



Explaining the genesis of the Plan, the Convenor of the Committee set up by the Indian Renaissance Institute, Mr V. M. Tarkunde, said the Plan was conceptually based on the first People's Plan prepared in 1944 under the inspiration of the late Mr M. N. Roy.

The second Plan has taken note of the planning experience in India over the past 30 years as well as the economic and demographic data that was currently available to them.

The Plan has the five-fold objective of meeting the minimum primary consumption requirements of the country's growing population, the involvement of the masses in the economy's productive process together with ensuring distributive justice and the elimination of poverty prevailing among the 40 per cent of the Indian population.

The strategy that has been proposed for the Plan envisages "a rapid growth of techno-organisational progress in the sectors on which the poor depend for employment", such as agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry, construction and public works, village crafts and small industry and small service units and minor transport.

The other requirement that has been specified is the need to curb the growth of non-essential consumption goods industry and a rapid expansion of wages goods output. Integral to this strategy is a simultaneous extension of social service activities, such as family planning, child care, health, education and community organisation.

The structural changes anticipated in the Indian economy at the end of two decades beginning with 1978-79 projects a progressive increase in the industrial sector's share of the gross domestic product from 17.49 per cent to 21.20 per cent and a corresponding decline in the share of agriculture from 48.15 per cent to 28.50 per cent. Services which will account for 25.73 per cent of the GDP in 1978-79 will increase to 32.30 per cent.

This pattern of planning involves high priority of investment in agriculture, construc-

tion and services. Thus, the projected increase of investment in the People's Plan is 57.40 per cent as against the official fifth Plan perspective of an increase of 48.16 per cent.

In the manufacturing sector, the Plan has postulated an increase of 96.05 per cent as against 104 per cent in the fifth Plan estimates. Even more marked is the increase in construction and services which are respectively 167.04 per cent in the People's Plan as against 109.84 per cent and 96.09 per cent compared to 101.05 per cent in the fifth Plan projections.

Broadly speaking, the Plan investments are co-related to areas where private initiative would prove to be most productive and where public initiative is considered to be essential. Thus, in agriculture and the small industry the accent is an higher ratio of private to Government investments while in such sectors of the industry as electricity and the other infrastructural requirements of the economy, the Plan calls for nearly total Government investment.

In aggregate terms, the People's Plan expects a rise in the GDP by 80.04 per cent over ten years with a per capita rise in the GDP as 55.41 per cent taking into account the population growth of 15.85 per cent. In other words, it is expected that the per capita income will increase from Rs. 1,387.13 to Rs. 2,198.86 at 1975-76 prices. This includes an increase of the per capita income of the 40 per cent of the people living below the poverty line from Rs. 520 to Rs. 963.

This is based on the assumption that the Plan will absorb considerably the demand for unskilled labour because of the massive outlays on services like education, health and housing intended to benefit the weaker sections. There is also the consequence of the direct and indirect contribution from programmes designed to fulfil the primary consumption needs of this section of the populations.

Compared to the fifth Plan projections, the People's Plan claims a per capita increase of Rs. 164 in the average income of the 40 per cent of the population over that of Rs. 785.45 assumed in the fifth Plan.