INDIAN ATOMIC EXPERTS

A group of scientists, engineers and technicians from India, concluding a 15-month stay at Chalk River, Ontario, paid a farewell visit November 28 to Mr. Nik Cavell, right, Administrator for Canada of the Colombo Plan.

The Indians were in Canada under the auspices of the Colombo Plan to study the NRX reactor at Chalk River on which the reactor being built near Bombay with Canadian assistance is modelled.

Review of Economic Progress

Reviewing the progress made, the communiqué stated 'inter alia':

During the year the growth of per capita real income in the region appears to have been maintained, and there was further progress in economic development. However, the period has also seen the emergence of certain problems including balance of payments difficulties, an expansion of the money supply in most countries, and an increase in internal inflationary pressures.

Although agricultural production, and industrial and mining output as well, showed in general an upward trend, exports failed to keep pace with the expansion of imports. Important contributing factors were the need for increased expenditure on imports for developmental purposes and domestic monetary expansion. As a result of fluctuations in export prices, and of higher prices of imports, the terms of trade deteriorated for many countries in the region. One of the consequences of the foregoing trends was the emergence of sizeable trade deficits in most of the countries.

In agricultural production there was a considerable increase in the output of foodgrains over the preceding year, but this was offset to some extent by a lower output of rubber and of tea. In mining there was a substantial increase in production, particularly of petroleum and iron ores. Industrial output increased considerably, more particularly in industries producing capital goods.

Most countries of the region are giving a high priority to expenditure on agriculture and irrigation, and to the production of basic services such as power, transport and communications. At the same time there is a general recognition of the need for the