

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 39.]

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether the State Governments have been able to indicate the factors that, in their opinion, have expanded unemployment and if so what are those important factors?

Shri Nanda: Those replies are being examined in detail. The States have expressed some views regarding the causes of the deterioration of the situation regarding employment.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether the State Governments have suggested a proper adjustment, and strengthening and expanding of the present schemes with a view to eliminate unemployment?

Shri Nanda: Yes, Sir. The list of schemes that has been attached to the statement gives certain directions in which they require re-adjustment of the Plan.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether the All India Khadi and Village Industries Board has formulated any schemes for the development of cottage industries and if so, what has happened to them?

Shri Nanda: They have, as far as I know, framed a programme and sent it to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether the new schemes supposed to have been formulated by the Planning Commission to give employment for 10 lakhs of people per year, have been communicated to the States and whether any remarks have been offered by the States?

Shri Nanda: A letter was sent to the States with that purpose in view and the States were asked to formulate schemes and indicate what help they required from the Centre.

Shri A. M. Thomas: As the outlay on the Plan is now sought to be enlarged by about 150 to 175 crores, may I enquire, as the final Plan has been discussed and approved by this House, whether the modified Plan also will be placed before Parliament and approved?

Shri Nanda: The modifications, of course, will be made known to the House.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know if the Bombay Government has made a special census and submitted to the Government of India that the unemployment situation is only marginal?

Shri Nanda: The Bombay Government has not made any census of its own. It has used the Census Report. It culled out some material from there and on the basis of that certain observations were made. It has not said anything more.

'AJKAL'

*126. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the number of copies of *Ajkal* (Hindi and Urdu separately) that are printed and published monthly?

(b) How many copies are distributed free and how many sold?

(c) What is the cost of printing and publication?

(d) What is the amount realized from advertisements and sale of the journals?

(e) What efforts are being made to improve the quality and circulation of the paper?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) to (d). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 40.]

(e) Continuous efforts are made to increase the quality as well as the circulation of the journals. In order to improve the quality of the journals,

eminent Hindi writers have been invited to advise in an honorary capacity for improving the quality.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the journals are in a deficit proposition or a sound proposition financially?

Dr. Keskar: As far as the Hindi edition is concerned, there is a very small deficit. The Urdu edition is at present running at a deficit.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the intention of this journal is predominantly cultural or informational?

Dr. Keskar: It is predominantly cultural.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know, if it is cultural, why it invites undue competition with similar other journals which are being published in the country?

Dr. Keskar: Not at all. One of the objects for continuing these journals has been to fulfil the want of a certain high type monthly journal either in Hindi or Urdu which does not exist. If, in any way, there is a feeling that these journals are competing with similar journals published ordinarily, we would have discontinued it.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know whether it is a fact that a large number of copies of this *Ajkal* edition are sold in Pakistan?

Dr. Keskar: Urdu edition, yes.

Shri Gidwani: What is the number of copies printed each month?

Dr. Keskar: Hindi edition—about 7200; Urdu—4300.

Shri Gidwani: How many of them are distributed free?

Dr. Keskar: About 400 copies, complimentary and otherwise are distributed free.

UNEMPLOYMENT

*127. **Shri Tulsidas:** (a) Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to refer to the answer given to starred

question No. 944 asked on 2nd September, 1953 and state whether the survey of unemployment in 18 towns referred to therein is over?

(b) If so, what are the results of the survey?

(c) Do the Planning Commission propose to conduct a similar survey of Bombay City?

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): (a) and (b). The field work and the scrutiny of schedules collected in the surveys are over. The tabulation of results is in progress and is likely to be completed in about ten weeks from now.

(c) The question of what further surveys into the problem of unemployment in Bombay or elsewhere should be undertaken will be considered after the programme of investigations already initiated has been completed.

Shri Tulsidas: May I know why a city like Bombay is not included in these towns while other big cities are included?

Shri Nanda: A certain number of towns were taken up in the beginning, and, as I have indicated, on the basis of the experience gained, other big cities will also be taken up.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether there is any programme to undertake similar surveys for agricultural labourers in some selected areas?

Shri Nanda: This survey of 23 towns was a special survey undertaken under the National Sample Survey. Now, in the regular course of surveys, data are being collected on employment and unemployment regarding 960 villages and 53 towns in different zones. Therefore, we shall have available to us information about rural areas also.

DEVELOPMENT BLOCKS IN BIHAR

*128. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to refer to the answer to starred question No. 776 on the 24th August, 1953 and