

(c) whether the Government also propose to set up employment-oriented industrial units in North-Eastern region to overcome the increasing unemployment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI. P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) The North-Eastern Council (NEC) has been setup under the NEC Act, 1971 for the coordinated economic development of the North-Eastern States which has contributed in the development of the infrastructure like transport & communications, power development, manpower development, etc. The NEC Schemes are implemented by the constituent States and Central Agencies.

In the Budget for the year 1993-94, for providing stimulus to new investment in the States in which all the districts are industrially backward, a five year tax holiday has been provided, commencing from the year of the production to new industrial undertakings in all the North-Eastern States amongst others. This will have impact on employment generation and setting up of new industrial units.

Employment in any State in general depends on the pace and pattern of development in the States for which mainly the State Government is responsible. The Union Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments in creation of employment opportunities through centrally sponsored/Central sector special employment programmes, important among which are the centrally sponsored schemes of Integrated Rural development Programme (IRDP), Jawahar Rojgar Yojna (JRY) and Nehru Rojgar Yojna (NRY) and Central sector scheme of self-employment for educated unemployed youth (SEEUY). These are the on-going employment programmes in North-Eastern States, as in other States of the country.

The Government of Nagaland has special Employment programmes for providing self-employment opportunities in the State. These include setting-up of small business, handloom and handicraft, dairy, poultry, piggy, pisciculture and cash plantation of coffee and cardamom. The Government of Assam has a scheme for rehabilitation of misguided youth, covering projects under: industries, agriculture, veterinary, fisheries and sericulture departments.

The Vocational Training Project assisted by the World Bank is also being implemented in the seven North-Eastern States i.e. Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura. The main objective of the project is to improve quality and efficiency of basic craftsmen training in the ITIs, expand and diversify programmes in the advanced skills etc. It will assist the State Governments to modernise facilities, training methodology, workshop and class room buildings, etc. so that the quality of training is improved which will provide better employability of the trained manpower.

[Translation]

Unemployment	}	Will the
*358. SHRI N. J. RATHVA		
SHRI GOVINDA		
CHANDRA MUNDA		

Minister for PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any steps to solve the unemployment problem in the country, particularly in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the programmes formulated to provide employment in the current year, State-wise; and

(c) the funds allocated for these programmes in the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c) Employment is a thrust area of the Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97). Accordingly, a growth strategy for accelerated employment generation through faster growth of sectors, sub-sectors and areas with relatively high Employment potential is envisaged. Employment in Gujarat, or in any State, depends on the pace and pattern of development in the State, for which the State Government is mainly responsible. The Union Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments including Government of Gujarat in the creation of Employment opportunities through centrally sponsored/central sector special employment programmes. The important among these are the on-going Integrated Rural Development Programme

(IRDP), Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) and Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Self-Employment for Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY). The Central Plan allocation of funds for these programmes in the Eighth Plan is given below:—

(Rs in crores)	
Schemes	Funds allocated during the Eighth Plan
Integrated Rural Development Programme & allied programmes	3800
Jawahar Rozgar Yojana	18400
Nahru Rozgar Yojana	227
Self-Employment for Educated Unemployed Youth	200

[English]

Banks in Cooperative Sector

*359. DR. VASANT NIVRUTTI PAWAR Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the number of banks in the co-operative sector which are allowed to deal in foreign exchange;

(b) the guidelines adopted by the Reserve Bank of India to authorise cooperative banks to deal in foreign exchange;

(c) whether there are any requests from the above banks pending with R. B. I seeking permission in this regard, and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that three cooperative Banks, namely, the Bombay Mercantile Cooperative Bank Ltd., Bombay, the Saraswat Cooperative Bank Ltd., Bombay and the Maharashtra State Cooperative Bank have been authorized to deal in foreign exchange. In addition, 70 Urban

Cooperative Banks are permitted to open and maintain Non-Resident (Ordinary) and Non-Resident (Internal) Accounts in Rupees

(b) RBI has reported that the applications for banks for authorising them to deal in foreign exchange are scrutinised with reference to

(i) its paid-up capital and reserves,

(ii) the extent of erosion that has taken place owing to bad and doubtful debts,

(iii) audit classification;

(iv) methods of operation as revealed in the inspection reports on the banks;

(v) adequacy of internal control,

(vi) availability of modern telecommunication, and infrastructural facilities including computerisation, and

(vii) the expected level of foreign exchange turnover

(c) and (d) There are requests from two Cooperative Banks seeking permission for a licence to deal in foreign exchange. These applications are being scrutinised

[Translation]

Agricultural Development

*360 SHRI SHYAM BIHARI MISRA Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Govt of Uttar Pradesh have sought any assistance from the World Bank for agricultural development during the year 1993-94,

(b) if so, details thereof?

(c) whether the World Bank is providing such type of assistance to other states,

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) (a) and (b) No project proposal has been received from the Govt of U P for World Bank assistance for agricultural development during the year 1993-94

(c) and (d) The World Bank has recently provided financial assistance for Tamil Nadu