

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, August, 21, 1991/
Sravana 30, 1913 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 487, Shri Prakash Patil... Q. No. 488, Shri Vishwanath Shastri. Q. No. 489, Shri Anna Joshi.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Q. 489 Sir.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): The Minister of Planning and Programme Implementation is sitting outside. I will just call him. (Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: Sir, the Minister is not present here. This is a very serious matter. Just look at the Treasury Benches. Not a single Cabinet Minister is present in the House. Let them not take the House so lightly... (Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): I was sitting outside. I tender my apologies. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: When I called, you were not here. You must feel sorry.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV: The Minister should have the courtesy to apologise.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: I apologise.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Shall I repeat my question?

[English]

Action Plan to Solve Unemployment Problem

*489. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of registered skilled and unskilled unemployed persons, category-wise and State-wise;

(b) the action plan to solve the unemployment problem; and

(c) the targets fixed for the current year in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The number of registered job seekers, skilled and unskilled category-wise and State-wise, is given at Annexure-I. All the persons registered with the Employment Exchanges are not necessarily unemployed.

The Eighth Five Year Plan is being formulated keeping in view the long-term goal of generating 100 million employment opportunities over a ten year period, or on an average 10 million opportunities per year. The details of the strategies and programmes to achieve this goal will be incorporated in the Plan document.

Specific targets of employment generation in the entire economy in the development process are not set on a year to year basis. Targets are, however, set for the special employment programmes. A statement showing the targets for 1991-92 under the major central/centrally sponsored programmes is given at Annexure-II.

ANNEXURE I

Number of job-seekers on the Live Register and skilled/Semi-skilled and Unskilled among them as on 31-12-1987 by State/Union Territory

(In lakhs)

<i>State/UTs</i>	<i>No. of Job seekers</i>	<i>Skilled/Semi-skilled</i>	<i>Unskilled</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
<i>State</i>			
1. Andhra Pradesh	27.22	1.07	6.34
2. Arunachal Pradesh**			
3. Assam	8.44	0.17	1.06
4. Bihar	27.08	1.47	3.47
5. Goa	0.78	0.07	0.07
6. Gujarat	7.82	0.26	0.98
7. Haryana	5.80	0.23	1.64
8. Himachal Pradesh	3.50	0.19	0.62
9. Jammu & Kashmir	1.27	0.05	0.45
10. Karnataka	10.13	0.26	1.10
11. Kerala	29.90	0.99	2.18
12. Madhya Pradesh	17.40	0.41	4.25
13. Maharashtra	26.15	0.85	4.62
14. Manipu	2.87	0.06	0.06
15. Meghalaya	0.19	@	0.03
16. Mizoram	0.37	@	0.09
17. Nagaland	0.23	@	0.01
18. Orissa	7.91	0.23	0.83
19. Punjab	6.19	0.23	2.05
20. Rajasthan	8.31	0.15	1.67

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
21. Sikkim*
22. Tamil Nadu	24.86	0.99	3.01
23. Tripura	1.17	0.01	0.19
24. Uttar Pradesh	29.63	1.66	6.16
25. West Bengal	45.65	1.21	9.87
<i>Union Territories</i>			
1. Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.16	0.02	..
2. Chandigarh	1.37	0.07	0.41
3. Dadra & Nagar Haveli**
4. Delhi	7.06	0.24	0.76
5. Daman & Diu**
6. Lakshadweep	0.07	0.03	..
7. Pondicherry	0.92	0.04	0.13
Total	302.47	11.00	52.07

NOTES :

- *No Employment Exchange is functioning in this State.
- **Data not maintained.
- @Figures less than 500.
- Figures may not add up to total due to rounding off.
- Columns 3 and 4 do not add up to column 2 as the skilled/unskilled classification is not applicable to all occupations.

ANNEXURE II

Targets for 1991-92 for Major Central/Centrally sponsored Special Employment Programmes

<i>Programme</i>	<i>Unit</i>	<i>Target for 1991-92 (lakhs)</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)
1. Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP)	No. of families	22.5
2. Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY)	Mandays of Employment	9000

(1)	(2)	(3)
3. Self-Employment of the Educated Unemployed Youth (SEEUY)	Number of beneficiaries	1.29
4. Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY)		
(i) Scheme of Urban Micro Enterprises	Persons	0.70
(ii) Scheme of Urban Wage Employment	} Man-days of } Employment	131.65
(iii) Scheme of Housing and Shelter Upgradation.		

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Sir, my first question is with regard to Annexure II. (a) What is the total number of persons who will get employment through the Central and Centrally Sponsored Special Employment Programme? (b) What are the actual financial provisions for the implementation of the Major Central and Centrally Sponsored Special Employment Programmes? In case you failed to implement these programmes and could not provide jobs as per your promised target, are you ready to give unemployment allowance, *berojgar bhatta* to the unemployed?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: As mentioned in the statement, laid on the table of the House, our long term goal is to generate 100 million employment opportunities *over a period of ten years* or on an average, 10 million employment opportunities per year. This is our strategy and this is the general package.

So far as allowance is concerned, it is not possible to give allowance because that will not generate any employment and we will simply be doling money without creating any employment opportunities at all. I hope hon. members will appreciate it.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: You have not answered the first two parts of my question. Part (a) of the question was, what is the total number of jobs which will be created due to your programmes mentioned at Annexure II; and what are the financial provisions for implementation of these employment programmes. The other

part of the question was regarding the unemployment allowance.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: With regard to the Special Employment Programmes and the Centrally Sponsored Special Employment Programmes, the total financial outlay for IRDP under the Central Sector is Rs. 409.49 crores and the total is Rs. 747.31 crores. This is for the year 1990-91. For the year 1991-92 the total outlay under the Central Sector is Rs. 411.40 crores and the total is Rs. 704.26 crores.

The progress is like this. In 1988-89, we had 37.7 lakh beneficiaries. In 1989-90, there were 32.6 lakh beneficiaries and in 1990-91, the figure was 29.05 lakh. The target for 1991-92 is 22.54 lakh beneficiaries.

As far as the Jawahar Rozgar Yojna is concerned, under the Central Sector the total outlay for the year 1990-91 is Rs. 2100.00 crores and the total is Rs. 2627.8 crores. And the Total outlay under the Central Sector for the year 1991-92 is Rs. 2100.00 crores and the total is Rs. 2526.13 crores.....

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: I wanted to know the total number of jobs which will be created due to these programmes.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, you cannot have the total number because it is in the form of percentage and it is some 2 or 3 per cent of the growth. We have targets for Centrally Sponsored Programmes only.

Regarding the financial provisions, I have already said that we have figures for both the *outlays* and *expenditure*. The targets are set for the Centrally Sponsored Programmes where we can tell you that how much money was spent and what was the target for the specific period. Generally, the growth of employment goes with the general economy of the country and is dependent on the percentage of growth achieved during the period. The specific targets of employment generation in the entire economy in the development process are not set on year to year basis. We have the year-wise targets for only Centrally Sponsored schemes.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: The earlier Government had proposed for the incorporation of the right to work as a fundamental right in the Constitution. I would like to know what is the attitude of the present Government towards this.

MR. SPEAKER: I think it is too big a question to be replied in the Question Hour. I leave it to the Minister if he wishes to answer he can reply.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, so far as the right to work is concerned, I remember that this issue has been raised in several debates and through resolution also. Government after Government have made commitment on this issue. Even the Government in which my learned friend's party was a partner, made a commitment and they started some work also to this effect. A Committee was also constituted but it could not come to any decision because it found that a lot of ground work is to be done before such a right can be conferred Constitutionally. I personally feel that it is a very laudable idea but I am not prepared to say so without doing the ground work. We appreciate that it is a very laudable idea but we have to do the ground work and that ground work is still not there.

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: I hope in principle you agree to that idea.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: There is no question in agreeing to it in principle. We must have a commitment to implement it.

SHRI MURLI DEORA: The continuous influx of rural people to the urban areas has resulted in massive unemployment in urban areas like Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras. First time during Shri Rajiv Gandhi's Government a scheme for self-employment for urban poor was taken up. But unfortunately though the scheme is renamed as Nehru Rozgar Yojna—as replied in Annexure II, item IV—only 50 per cent of the target is achieved because the banks are not disbursing the loans in the urban areas. I would like to know how much money is allocated for this Nehru Rozgar Yojna for urban areas. Why 50 per cent or 60 per cent of the target was not achieved? One lacuna which I have found is that a limit of Rs. 7200 is there. The applicants cannot take advantage of that limit. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I just wanted to draw the attention of the Minister that a wrong figure has been given...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: No. Not like this. You cannot do that. You can ask a question, if you like.

SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: It is not a question, I am not asking any question.

MR. SPEAKER: Then, you will not be allowed to raise like that.

(Interruptions)

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, so far as Nehru Rozgar Yojana is concerned, we have financial outlays for this scheme.

As far as outlays are concerned, the Nehru Rozgar Yojana consists of new schemes. The outlay in the Central Sector is Rs. 120 crore in

1990-91. In 1991-92, the outlay is [English]
Rs. 113 crore.

So far as the physical progress is concerned, I may mention that being a new scheme, the assessment is to be made and as the hon. Prime Minister promised the other day in the House, that a proper appraisal of this scheme, a proper assessment of this scheme and function of this scheme is under consideration.

[Translation]

SHRI MURLI DEORA: Why below the target, why not full achievement?

[English]

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: It is a new Rozgar Yojana. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: He raised his hand first, please take your seat. Shri Dau Dayal Joshi.

SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to point out to the hon. Minister that the Government evolved a scheme to remove unemployment and implemented the same. But, may I know the reasons why it was not successful. When the Government failed to give employment what is the obstruction in its way to give unemployment allowance?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, the question of granting unemployment allowance is being raised time and again. Even if you give an allowance to any person it does not solve his problem of unemployment, and it would hamper the progress of the country as per our plans. Because the amount of money so given would not generate employment. Therefore, it has been considered in depth by successive Governments. If you pay allowance, the schemes will come to a grinding halt.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, the figure given is very interesting. They say that every year they will provide 10 million jobs. Over a period of ten years, they are going to provide 100 million jobs. That means, every year, they are going to employ not more than 10 million people. This figure of 100 million is a bogus figure. If you provide 10 million jobs this year, then you will have to provide 10 million jobs next year also. So, your real target is 10 million jobs per year.

My question is: What is the number of new entrants in the labour force? What is the percentage? Is it true that you are always trying to provide employment to a percentage of population which is less than the new entrants in the labour force? Is it true therefore that the figure for unemployed people is continuously increasing as a backlog from plan to plan?

These are my questions. Let him answer them. If the answer is 'Yes' then what new proposals you have to tackle this kind of a problem?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, the hon. Member should carefully read my statement which has been laid. The answer is that the Eighth Five Year Plan is being formulated keeping in view the long term goal for generating 100 million employment opportunities. (Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: That is what I question. This Budget also says that. Ten million jobs each year, adding up to 100 million jobs in ten years.

MR. SPEAKER: Do not have cross talks. You talk through the Chair.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: How are you going to provide 100 million jobs?

MR. SPEAKER: Not like this. This is not proper.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: The answer is very clear if the hon. Member has read it. It does not say that we have been providing jobs. That is the target of the Eighth Five Year Plan; and 100 million figures are for ten years; they are on an average ten million opportunities. The word used is: 'opportunity'. There is a difference between a full time employment and an opportunity of employment and on an average 10 million. The detailed strategy of these programmes will be given in the Plan Document. So, now, there is no scope of an argument on this.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: He has not answered the other part of the question. What is the growth rate? It is relevant.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a full-scale discussion on unemployment. This is a question on the Government's scheme to do it.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: We expect information from the Minister.

MR. SPEAKER: He will give it to you.

SHRI SHARAD DIGHE: The long-term goal is to produce 100 million employment opportunities over ten years and on an average ten million opportunities per year. That is there in our Congress Manifesto also. But you have said that the details of this strategy will be finalised when the Eighth Five Year Plan will be finalised. Now that will be in March 1992. Therefore, I would like to know whether you can give any indication as to the strategy to reach this goal because at present Annexure II says merely twenty five lakh job opportunities. I cannot convert these man days, but the families to be employed are approximately twenty-five lakhs. So, have you got any immediate strategy to implement during this year to provide ten million jobs in this year?

MR. SPEAKER: He is not asking about the Plan, but the strategy.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: That is possible; I can give it because employment strategy is very clear that we have to create new employment opportunities for unemployed and new entrants in the labour force and augment the income of those already employed in the lower level of income and organise special employment programmes to provide a safety net of guaranteed employment and income to the rural poor till the time as the development process is able to take care of them. The employment opportunities will be more productive and sustainable and there will be regional cropwise diversification in agricultural sector; development of waste land into cultivable land; faster expansion of the rural non-farm sector, the rural infrastructure, housing construction, small scale and decentralised industries, these are the areas, thrust areas which are for employment generation.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has declined to pay unemployment allowance. May I know from the hon. Minister as to the steps being taken by the Government for the subsistence of a jobless person? Besides, I would also like to know whether Government would take steps to ensure that employment is provided to local people in the industries irrespective of their coming under a State Government or the Central Government.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: He wants to know whether you are going to employ persons from that area only. The first part of the question is disallowed; the second part of the question you can answer.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: It is a very valid question that is if a project comes up in a particular area, the Government's policy is, as far as possible, the employment must go to the people whose land is taken away by the Government.

SHRI MUKUL BALAKRISHNA WASNIK: In the reply given by the Hon. Minister it has been stated that 1.29 lakh beneficiaries will be benefited from the self-employment scheme for the educated unemployed.

MR. SPEAKER: You do not have to repeat what has been stated. There are many questions. I am going to allow them. Do not repeat what has been stated.

SHRI MUKUL BALAKRISHNA WASNIK: But at the ground level the picture is very different. The banks are refusing to give any assistance to the educated unemployed under this programme. I would, therefore, like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government proposes to call a meeting of the nationalised banks to ensure the speedy and proper implementation of this programme and secondly, I would like to know whether the Government proposes to impose a ban on fresh recruitment in the Union Government Ministries and Departments and if not, what are the projected figures of fresh recruitment in the Union Government Ministries and Departments?

MR. SPEAKER: It is a disjointed question on all areas. How do you expect it to be answered?

SHRI MUKUL BALAKRISHNA WASNIK: I have asked it in half a minute.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, you can reply if you are in a position to reply.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: Actually, both parts of this question do not fall within the purview of this Question.

[*Translation*]

SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is the Government aware that even after spending Rs. 25,000 crores from 1980 to 1990 to provide employment in the villages the rate of unemployment is fast increasing. Secondly, whether there is

any scheme with the Government to provide employment in the villages itself to their youth who are fleeing to cities in search of employment?

MR. SPEAKER: This question has already been replied.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Sir, as per the present situation in the country the number of skilled and unskilled unemployed persons is very high and the Government is also admitting it. So, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is considering incorporation of right to work as a fundamental right in the Constitution. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: That question has already been asked and replied.

SHRI RAM NAIK: There are two schemes, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and Nehru Rozgar Yojana. Jawahar and Nehru, they are one and the same to us. What is the difference?

Secondly, there is the Khadi Village Industries Commission, through whose programme lot of employment potential is generated. There are about 130 vacancies in the Khadi Commission which are not being filled for the last three or four years. Will the Government, take a conscious decision about filling up the vacancies in the Khadi and Village Industries Commission and other such organisations which generate more employment? Will the Government consider filling up such vacancies?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: There are two parts. One is the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and the Nehru Rozgar Yojana. They are different, because one relates to the rural areas and the other relates to the urban areas. That is the only difference.

With regard to the Khadi and Gramodyog Industries, this industry is doing very well. It is giving employment to the artisans in the rural areas.

So far as the vacancies are concerned, I may submit that I have no control about filling up the vacancies. The Hon. Member may take it up with the Industries Ministry.

MR. SPEAKER: You may also help him.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: I will also look into it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the cement factory at Sawai Madhopur is closed for the last five years. The workers have to report for work regularly and they are charge-sheeted if they are found absent. But they are not being paid their salaries. Contrary to it is the claim that unemployment will be done away with. (*Interruptions*) will the Government take some steps in the matter? (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Only because I allowed you, please don't ask such a question.

SHRI RATILAL VARMA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether steps are proposed to be taken to provide government jobs to maximum number of people as per the provision of Apprenticeship Act?

[*English*]

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: That is an accepted thing which you have raised... (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SUNIL DUTT: There are a lot of programmes to provide employment to the disabled. We are supposed to provide three per cent jobs to the disabled. But these programmes are not being implemented properly. I want to know from the Minister as to how they are going to provide jobs to the disabled.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: Sir, to the best of my information, the Gov-

ernment has already implemented the programmes to give jobs to the physically disabled persons. I will note the point of the hon. Member and see that it is implemented properly.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL: Sir, the hon. Minister has provided the figure as on 31-12-1987. May I know from the hon. Minister as to what is the difficulty on the part of the Government to provide the latest figure?

Is it not a fact that many job seekers do not incline to register their names in the employment exchanges because the public sector undertakings and the Central Government itself do not recruit through employment exchanges? If you look at the figures of job seekers in West Bengal they are high because registration of names in employment exchange is compulsory. But in other States, there is no such provision. Is it not a fact that in many States, employment exchange is not able to work properly because the Central Government and public sector undertakings, as employers, do not provide employment through employment exchanges?

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ: The figure was upto 31st December 1987. I was myself surprised as to why it was not made up to date. I have collected the up to date figure as on 31st May 1991 and it is 34.92 million. That is the latest figure.

I have noted about the situation in employment exchanges and I will pass it on to the relevant Ministry.

SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: I do not want to ask a question. It was given wrongly in the statement that there is no employment exchange in Sikkim. I know very well that there is proper employment exchange running in the State.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a question. This is only an information that you are giving.