

guarantee of minimum conditions of employment to the rural and other unorganised labour;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the States that have implemented the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

(a) to (c). Various suggestions have been made regarding Central Legislation to protect wages and employment and to provide for social security and other protections to workers in the unorganised sector including in the rural areas. The Government is considering these suggestions

Blind Persons in Andhra Pradesh

2609. SHRIMATI J. JAMUNA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of male and female blind persons in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) the number of such persons in the age group of 18-35 years.

(c) whether there are separate schemes to provide employment to blind males and females; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

(a) According to a Sample Survey conducted in 1981 by National Sample Survey Organisation there were 622 male and 920 female blind persons in rural areas and 323 male and 534 female blind persons in urban areas per 1,00,000 of population in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The information for this age group is not available. However, there were 104 male

and 79 female blind persons in rural areas and 81 male and 71 female blind persons in urban areas per 1,00,000 of population in the age group of 15-39 years in Andhra Pradesh in 1981.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. There is no separate scheme of the Central Government for providing employment to blind males and females. Both blind males and females are covered under the various existing employment schemes. However, there is 3% reservation for the physically handicapped which includes the blind, speech and hearing impaired and the orthopaedically handicapped in Group C and D posts in Central Government Ministries/Departments and Central Public Sector Undertakings. State Governments/Union Territories have also reservation for the physically handicapped varying from 2 to 3 percent.

Coverage Under E.S.I. Scheme

2610. SHRI H.C. SRIKANTIAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Employees State Insurance Corporation has extended the wage limit for coverage under Health Insurance Scheme to Rs. 3000/- per month;

(b) if so, whether it has caused considerable discontentment amongst the workers due to poor service of the scheme; and

(c) whether Government will reconsider the above scheme and take steps for providing better services to existing members covered under the scheme only?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN):

(a) The proposal of ESI Corporation to enhance the wage limit for coverage of employees under the ESIC Scheme from Rs. 1600/- to Rs. 3000/- per month is under consideration of the Government.

(b) and (c). Do not arise. However, it has been the constant endeavour of the ESI Corporation as well as the State Government to provide better service to the members covered under the Scheme.

News Item Captioned "Processed Food Cause More Heart Disease"

2611. SHRIK.S. RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned 'Processed Foods cause more heart diseases' appearing in the News-Times dated 14 February, 1990;

(b) whether consumption of processed food results in more heart attacks;

(c) if so, whether any study has been undertaken in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NILAMANI ROUTRAY): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

I.S.B.T. in Trans-Yamuna Area

2612. SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct in ISBT in the trans-Yamuna area in Delhi; and

(b) if so, by when it is likely to be completed and estimated cost of the project?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) Delhi Administration has reported that there is no such proposal under consideration at present.

(b) Does not arise.

Rehabilitation of Jhuggi Dwellers

2613. SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT:
SHRI GANGA CHARAN
LODHI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have taken a decision that the jhuggi jhopri clusters will not be demolished until a scheme for their relief and rehabilitation is drawn up;

(b) if so, whether the instructions of Union Government are being followed properly; and

(c) the details of the areas in which demolitions were carried out during the months of December, '89 and January, '90?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) While it is the policy of the Government not to demolish old existing jhuggies without providing an alternative and to upgrade living conditions in such clusters, the Government is firm that no fresh unauthorised construction or encroachment is permitted to come up.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The details of the areas in which fresh jhuggis were demolished during the months of December, 1989 and January, 1990 are as follows:—