

Seminar on Hill Area Development Programme

2512. SHRI R. PRABHU : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether recently there was a Seminar on Hill Area Development Programme in Nilgiri;

(b) the principal topics discussed at the Seminar;

(c) whether the Seminar has preferred Nilgiri model of development to Western Ghats model; and

(d) the important aspects of the Nilgiri model of development ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) A Seminar on Eco-development of the Western Ghats was held at Udthagamandalam in the Nilgiris district on October 21 and 22, 1985. The Seminar was sponsored by Tamil Nadu State Council for Science and Technology and organised by the University of Madras.

(b) to (d). The requisite information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Retaking of immigrants from Bangladesh

2513. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Bangladesh has been approached about retaking the illegal immigrants from that country into Assam; and

(b) if so, with what results ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI B.R. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b). The question of illegal immigration of Bangladeshi citizens into India has been taken up with the Bangladesh Government from time to time. The Government of Bangladesh are committed to accepting Bangladeshi

nationals in whose case it can be established that they migrated illegally to India after March 25, 1971.

Settlement of claims of retiring employees of Defence Ministry

2514. SHRI S.M. BHATTAM : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether he is aware that claims of pay, provident fund etc., of employees who retire from service are not settled by Defence Ministry for years;

(b) details of such cases pending with the Ministry for the last two years; and

(c) action taken by Government to ensure that dues of retiring employees of all categories are settled before their date of superannuation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) to (c). The cases of retiring employees belonging to the Ministry of Defence Secretariat are processed strictly within a prescribed time-schedule and the claims of all the retiring employees, relating to their pay and provident fund, etc., are settled well before the date of their retirement and payments made to them within ten days of their retirement. No claim case is pending with this Ministry.

Unemployment in the country

2515. SHRI S.M. BHATTAM : Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) extent of unemployment and under-employment in the country as per the results of any recent study conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation or any other organisation;

(b) whether figures in respect of men and women separately both in rural and urban areas are available and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) strategy proposed to be adopted to tackle the unemployment problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) and (b). The estimates of unemployment in March 1985 are as follows :

Category	In million
Rural males	3.76
Rural females	1.21
Urban males	3.25
Urban females	0.98
Total	9.20

The above estimates are provisional and are derived from the partial data of the 38th round (January—June, 1983) of National Sample Survey and are based on usual status approach, under which a person is categorised as unemployed if he/she was seeking and/or available for work for relatively a longer period of 365 days preceding the date of survey. This definition is generally in conformity with the recent international practices.

As compared to the above estimates the persons in the live register of employment exchanges as on March 1985 is 23.9 million. The employment exchanges data, however, suffer from serious limitations like those already employed, students, etc., being included as unemployed, apart from multiple registration. At the same time not all unemployed get registered.

Recent data on under-employment are still under process.

(c) The central element in the development strategy of the Seventh Plan is generation of productive employment. This is expected to be achieved through (a) increase in crop intensity, (b) extension of new agricultural technologies to low productivity regions and to small farmers, (c) expansion of labour intensive construction activities for providing housing, urban amenities, roads and rural infrastructure, etc. Besides such sectoral programmes, there are also programmes for poverty alleviation through giving

self-employment and wage employment to the poorer sections of the community directly.

Study on disparity in income and inequality

2516. **SHRI S.M. BHATTAM :** Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study was made on the question of disparity in income and inequalities in the country either recently or previously;

(b) what are the salient features and pertinent details of the same?

(c) whether a copy of such report will be made available to Members; and

(d) if not, whether any such study is proposed to be undertaken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI A.K. PANJA) : (a) to (c). The Planning Commission set up a Committee on Distribution of Income and Levels of Living on 13, October, 1960, under the Chairmanship of Prof. P.C. Mahalanobis. The Committee submitted its report in two parts. The first part was submitted on 25th February, 1964 and the second on 25th July, 1969. Both the parts of the report are available in Parliament Library.

Notwithstanding several limitations in the available data on income distribution, the Committee has drawn certain broad conclusions which are contained in para 55, page 22 to 24 of part I of the Report.

(d) Reliable data on income are difficult to get and before launching a comprehensive nation-wide enquiry, it is necessary to conduct a pilot study for evolving a practical and scientific approach for collection of the data. With this end in view, the National Sample Survey Organisation carried out a pilot study during September, 1983—December, 1984. The results of the study are awaited.

Elephant project in Karnataka

2517. **SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :