

[English]

Employment to Urban Poor

*78 SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plan for eradicating unemployment in the urban sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of employment opportunities created in the Urban Sector during the past three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR U VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b). Two Centrally sponsored programmes viz., Nehru Rozgar Yojana and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme are presently being implemented in the country :-

(i) The Nehru Rozgar Yojana was launched in October, 1989 and has been designed to generate employment to the unemployed and under employed urban poor living below the poverty line. Within this broad category, the SCs/STs and Women constitute special target groups. This employment is of two types. One relates to the setting up of self-employment ventures and another relates to the provision of wage employment through creation of public assets in the low income neighbourhoods of urban local bodies and also through housing and shelter upgradation

(ii) The Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme has been launched in November, 1995 with the objective of attacking the several root causes of urban poverty simultaneously. Besides employment generation and skill development, the PMI UPEP also aims at effective achievement of social sector goals, community empowerment, convergence through sustainable support systems, environmental improvement of urban slums and shelter upgradation. The benefits can be availed by the urban poor living below the poverty line who have got education upto 9th standard or less. Special attention/emphasis is given to women and persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and disabled persons. The programme is applicable to all Class II urban agglomerations with relaxation to the district towns in the hilly States and regions

(c) The details of employment opportunities created under Nehru Rozgar Yojana during the last three years are as under -

Year	SUME No of beneficiaries assisted	SUWE No. of Mandays of work generated
1993-94	1.52 lakhs	72.17 lakhs
1994-95	1.25 lakhs	50.85 lakhs
1995-96	1.25 lakhs	54.64 lakhs

The Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme has been launched only recently and is still in the preparatory stage.

World Bank Assistance to Coal India Limited

*79. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank has announced a 43.5 million SDR (\$ 63 million) International Development Association credit to Coal India Limited for providing technical assistance for Coal India environmental and social projects recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the projects which are likely to be benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) to (c). The World Bank has approved an IDA Credit of 43.3 million SDR (US \$ 63 million) for "Coal Sector Environment and Social Mitigation Project" of Coal India Ltd. The project inter-alia envisages carrying out Environment Action Plans, Rehabilitation Action Plans etc. at 25 identified coal projects of CIL. The list of these projects is given below :-

CCL	MCL	NCL	SECL	WCL
K.D. Hosalong	Ananta	Bina	Bisrampur	Durgapur
Parej East	Belpahar	Duhichua	Dhanpuri	Nijai
Rajappa	Bharatpur	Jayani	Dipka	Padampur
	Jagannath	Jhingurdah	Gevra	Saati
	Lakhanpur	Nigahi	Kusmunda	Ummer
	Samieswari		Manikpur	

Relations with Sri Lanka

*80. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the steps proposed to be taken to strengthen further the relations with Sri Lanka;

(b) whether the foreign Minister of Sri Lanka visited India recently; and

(c) if so, the bilateral issues figured in his talks with Indian leaders and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) The Government is committed to further enhance bilateral relations and cooperation with Sri Lanka. A meeting of the Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Commission chaired by External Affairs Minister and the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister is proposed to be held in Colombo later this year. Prior to the Joint Commission, it is proposed to convene meetings of the Sub-commissions on Science & Technology and Social, Cultural and Educational Matters in Colombo. The Joint Commission would review the progress made in various spheres of bilateral cooperation and would also identify new areas of cooperation.

(b) Yes Sir, the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister paid a two days goodwill visit to India on June 20 and 21, 1996.

(c) In the discussions held with the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister, both India and Sri Lanka emphasised the high priority given to maintenance of close and cordial bilateral relations. Both sides expressed satisfaction at the present state of bilateral cooperation and agreed that there were possibilities for further enhancing ties. It was agreed that Sri Lanka would host the third session of the Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Commission later this year which would plan improvement of relations in all fields. Discussions were held on improving ties in the economic field. The question of fisheries and problems faced by fishermen of the two countries was also discussed and the two sides agreed to hold consultations to resolve these problems expeditiously.

Sea Erosion

433 SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN . Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have made any assessment of or received any Reports from the Government of Kerala regarding the extent of sea erosion caused by the recent squalls along the west coast.

(b) if so, the details of findings/report, and

(c) the details of relief granted by the Union Government to the State of Kerala in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) (a) No, Sir

(b) and (c) Does not arise

[Translation]

Opening of Schools in Rural Areas

434 SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have conducted any country-wide survey to find out the number of rural

and backward areas where there are no primary schools and the distance the children of the area have to cover to attend school for education;

(b) whether the Government propose to provide schools in those areas on priority basis;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to provide financial assistance to the families living below the poverty line for spread of education in such areas; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. All India Educational Surveys are conducted periodically by States under the aegis of National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) to assess the availability of existing schooling facilities at different stages of education. The 6th All India Survey, which has been conducted recently, has ascertained the number of rural habitations without primary schools and the distance-wise availability of primary schools.

(b) and (c). According to available information, 94% of the country's rural population has access to a primary school within one km. of walking distance. The responsibility for establishing primary schools in the unserved and under-served areas lies with the respective State Governments which have evolved their own norms for the purpose in accordance with broad national guidelines.

(d) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Ministry.

(e) Does not arise

Pension to Soldiers of Second World War

435. SHRI R.B. RAI Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state

(a) whether pension scheme has been introduced for the ex-soldiers who were demobilized after second World War, and

(b) If so, the amount given to them per mensem and the procedures thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) (a) No Sir

(b) Question does not arise

[English]

Irrigation Project

436. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether any proposal to modernise certain