

pleased to state :

(a) whether an agreement for economic cooperation exists with Egypt ; and

(b) if so, the specific projects which have been set up so far ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) There is no bilateral agreement on economic cooperation with Egypt but there is a Tripartite Agreement on Trade Expansion and Economic Cooperation between India, Egypt and Yugoslavia.

(b) No specific project has so far been set up with Egypt under the Tripartite Agreement.

Report by U.N. Committee for Development Planning on Joboriented Economic Policy of Developing Countries

1631. SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI :
SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether U.N. Committee for Development Planning has stated that jobs for the unemployed and a minimum income to assure decent living standard must become the overriding objective of economic policy of the developing countries ;

(b) if so, whether India has examined the report : and

(c) If so, other points mentioned in the report ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : The United Nations Committee for Development Planning, in its report of the 8th Session, which was held from 10th to 20th April, 1972, concentrated mainly on various aspects connected with mass-poverty and unemployment. The Committee has pointed out that the aim, in the case of developing countries, should be to link up mobilisation of idle

labour as far as possible with measures for increasing production and, even more, for raising the rate of accumulation. The Committee lays stress on the elimination of unemployment and under-employment in developing countries.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The keynote of the report of the Committee on Developing Planning is the urgency of finding solutions to problems of mass poverty. The Committee's deliberations on employment policy and the strategy against poverty, expressed as they are in general terms, lay emphasis on transformation of institutional framework, promotion of labour incentive techniques, policies relating to reduction in income disparities, shifts in product-mix in favour of goods of mass-consumption, public construction programmes to absorb unemployed labour, etc. In addition, the Committee has observed (i) that developing countries must move their poverty reduction and employment goals from the periphery towards the centre of development plans ; (ii) that they must become as concerned with income and output distribution as with income and output generation ; and (iii) section of the population whose consumption standards do not meet a minimum level of living, consistent with human dignity, should be identified.

Implementation of West Bengal Jute Agreement

1632. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether some jute mill-owners outside West Bengal have not yet implemented the West Bengal jute agreement ;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to persuade the employers to give effect to the agreement ; and

(b) the names of the factories outside West Bengal which have not implemented the agreement fully ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : a) to (c). Presumably the reference is to the Jute Agreement signed by the parties