GOVERNMENT OF INDIA LABOUR LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:324 ANSWERED ON:16.08.2000 INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION VUKKALA RAJESWARAMMA

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the International Labour Organisation(ILO)has expressed serious concern overabsence of unemployment protection in developing countries, including India;
- (b) if so, whether any assessment has been made by the Indian Government in this regard; and
- (c) the concrete measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to provide employment guarantee for a number of days per year to unemployed workers through intensive infrastructure programmes?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYA NARAYAN JATIYA)

a) to c) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STATTED QUESTION NO. 32D REYRAJESWARAMMA VUKKALA REGARDING 'INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION' FOR REPLY ON 16.8.2000.

International Labour Organisation in their World Labour Report,2000 have indicated that excepting those who work in the rural/urban formal(organised) sectors in developing countries, there is hardly any unemployment protection to the rest of the work force. The Report also notes that major Asian countries like India have Social and Health Insurance Schemes covering millions of workers and their families but the vast majority of the population in developing countries, including informal sector wage earners and self-employed personnel have no social protection. It has been suggested that the major focus must be on the extension of the coverage to these workers. Government of India has been implementing various self-employment and wage employment programmes both in the rural and urban areas with a view to providing employment to the unemployed. While in rural areas Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana, Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana and Employment Assurance Schemes are being implemented, the programmes implemented in the urban areas are: Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana and Swarna Jayanti Sahari Rozgar Yojana. It is, however, not possible, at the present stage of economic development, to provide comprehensive unemployment insurance or employment guarantee to all the unemployed in the country.