

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please listen to the Prime Minister.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Will you please sit down ? Are you not prepared to listen to the Prime Minister also? Please take your seats.

(Interruptions)

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI H.D. DEVE GOWDA): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, yesterday I have received the representation from majority of the Members of Parliament with regard to the selection of the beneficiaries that they should be involved. This will be examined. Only one point that I would like to make it clear is that after the 73rd Amendment to the Constitution, regarding Panchayats the powers have been delegated to the Panchayats, the Gram Sabhas.

In Karnataka also, even the MLAs have not been involved. In fact, you might have read it in the newspapers that when I was the Chief Minister, there was a binig uproar in the House that the MLAs should be involved in everything and it was not the question of mere the selection of beneficiaries by Gram Sabhas. But the Act requires necessary amendments for that.

We will call all the Opposition Leaders and I will take a decision in this regard. If need be, we may have to bring in certain amendments to the existing Act. I will discuss with all the Opposition Leaders and on the advice of the Opposition Leaders, if necessary, suitable modifications will be made in this regard.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This Question has taken more than 35 minutes.

[Translation]

Self-Employment Scheme

*202. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :
JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have introduced a scheme for setting up small industries under self-employment scheme by the young persons in rural areas and as per the scheme half of the amount of expenditure was to be provided as Government subsidy and the other half was to be provided as loan;

(b) If so, the detailed outline of the scheme;

(c) whether targets for each year were also fixed under the scheme;

(d) if so, the targets fixed for the year 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 and the achievement made thereof, separately;

(e) whether any flaws have come to notice regarding the implementation of the scheme; and

(f) if so, the details and reasons therefor and the remedial measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) to (d). No, Sir, However, pursuant to the recommendation of an Expert Committee for revamping of IRDP, a new category of beneficiaries i.e. literate (read upto Class VIII) unemployed, but trained rural youth living below the poverty line, will be covered under the programme, wherein each will be provided with subsidy amounting to 50% of the project cost or Rs. 7500 whichever is lower. The scheme introduced is not for setting up of small industries but viable economic enterprises including those in the ISB sector. Target approach has been dispensed with under IRDP as a whole in keeping with the recommendations of the Expert Committee to ensure quality performance.

(e) and (f). No, Sir. Since the scheme has been launched with effect from this year only.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, this is a very important question but the Government has not shown the amount of seriousness it deserved. The unemployed youth who have done entrepreneurship are not given priority in small scale industry can these people not be given priority in small scale industry ? Today, the entire nation is exercised over the prevailing unemployment situation. Parents are worried about their unemployed wards. Land holdings are fragmented. There is pressure on land. The people who depended in holdings are facing unemployment. The Government has, no doubt, created some attractions by giving fifty per cent subsidy, but the limit has been maintained at Rs. 7500/-. Is it not like making a mockery of the unemployed youth by giving a more subsidy of Rs. 7500/- in these days of galloping inflation ?

Secondly, the hon. Minister has admitted that no targets have been fixed. How can we think of a scheme without target ? May I know from the hon. Minister whether he will fix some targets and priority to ensure that unemployed youth get suitable employment and also provide for utility management ?

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Hon. Deputy, Speaker Sir, a modification has been made in the IRDP programme recently due to the recommendation of the Experts Committee. We have implemented its recommendations. The first recommendation implemented is that the subsidy amount for trained educated rural youth belonging to the families below the poverty line has been enhanced. This is a special innovative programme which we are implementing from

this year onwards after the Experts Committee has given its recommendations. Under this scheme, a maximum subsidy of Rs. 7500 is given to the educated youths (up to matriculation).

The second one is also a special scheme which we are implementing from this year onwards based on the recommendations of the Experts Committee, i.e. financial ceiling for group activities. If five or more persons, who are below the poverty line, can come together as a group and come out with a scheme like purchasing of a tractor or whatever it may be, they can be helped. This is new scheme. We are implementing these two schemes for providing self-employment to the rural poor. These two schemes are more useful for the unemployed youth in the rural areas particularly educated unemployed and other group of people.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, I wanted to know whether a sum of Rs. 7500/- is sufficient for doing entrepreneurship ? Secondly, whether basic needs based infrastructure has been developed for the growth of trade ? We have seen that neither shops nor any other facility is given in urban areas to the people provided with subsidy. So, may I know whether the Government are raising the basic infrastructure and why some targets have not been fixed ? Whether he is prepared to fix the targets and if so, the details thereof?

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, Rs. 7,500 is only the subsidy amount, but the investment can be much higher and but put together it is feasible.

As far as categories in the I.R.D.P. are concerned, we are giving subsidies to the tune of Rs. 4,000, Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 6,000 respectively to the small and marginal farmers and Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries. This is a new innovative scheme based on the Experts Committee recommendations and we are giving specially Rs. 7,500.

As far as the existing schemes are concerned, we are giving only Rs. 4,000 Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 6,000 to the small and marginal farmers and Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries. Other than that, this is a special scheme. Under this scheme, we are giving Rs. 7,500 as a subsidy.

As far as the second scheme is concerned, we are giving one lakh twenty five thousand rupees as a subsidy to four or five persons, who are below the poverty line, who can come together as a group or 50 per cent of the total cost of the project.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Minister has not said anything about infrastructure. He should enlighten us in this regard.

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, based on the Experts Committee's recommendations, we have enhanced the infrastructure from 10 per cent to 20 per cent in plain areas ; from 10 per cent to 25 per cent in North-Eastern States. This is also being implemented from this year onwards.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : Sir, the Rural Poverty Alleviation Programme has been virtually eliminated during the last five years. In 1993-94, 25.38 lakh families got the assistance. It was reduced to 21 lakh in 1994-95 and in 1995-96 it has been reduced to 20 lakh.

Similarly, under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojna, 10,258 lakh mandays were created but they were reduced in 1994-95 to 9,000 lakh mandays and then 8,000 lakh mandays in 1995-96.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether this reduction, one year after the other, is going to result in total liquidation of these schemes. Are you going to increase it again and reach the old target ?

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, since the inception of the scheme upto 31st March, 1996, so far, four hundred and ninety lakh and eighty six thousand families were benefited under the I.R.D.P. However, what the hon. Member has said is correct. In 1993-94, 25.39 lakh families were benefited; in 1994-95, 22.14 families were benefited.

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA : It is going down every year and virtually closed.

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Yes. In some States, 50 per cent is borne by the Centre and 50 per cent by the States. In some audit reports, some utilisation certificates were not reaches to the Centre. That is why, we are not releasing these funds. Based on that, those amounts will come to the opening balance of the next year. We are giving targets more than the projects they achieve including this opening balance. That is the difference.

SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA : Sir, the scheme of self-employment for the rural unemployed is an extremely good scheme. If it is implemented properly, it can do a lot. But the difficulties arise at the ground level. When these young men go to the banks they are asking security for the loan. This is not provided for either in the Act or in your scheme. The banks are not cooperating, they are not giving loans to the people and are demanding security. Will the hon. Minister look into this matter and see that these poor people get the money without any security so that they can do the work in their rural areas ?

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, what the hon. Member has said is correct. So many banks are not cooperating. We received complaints also. We will look into it.

[Translation]

SHRI BASANT SINGH KHALSA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the scheme which aims at providing employment to rural youth is commendable, but the benefit of it should go to all the youths of the country during the militancy period in Punjab, the Government used to preach repeatedly that rural youths would be provided self-employment. The youth sold the small land holdings they had and set up small industries. Just now, Bhatia Ji Spoke of draw backs of hanking system. It is there. But, Punjab is facing acute power shortage. Power is available for 24 hours in urban areas but it is not available in rural areas. We have two thermal power plants in Punjab which face shortage of coal the hon. Prime Minister has solved this problem to some extent.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : This is a very important issue, but it has very little relevance to this question although, I do not say it is not related... (Interruptions)

SHRI BASANT SINGH KHALSA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the question is of setting up of small industries in rural areas to generate self-employment, but without electricity, nothing can be done. I would like to know whether Government would commit itself to providing electricity for 24 hours to these industries ?

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, it is not related to my Ministry. It is linked with Power, Small-scale industries and Industries Departments. A separate question should be put.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He has given answer by not replying.

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA : Sir, Livestock—poultry and dairy—is a very intensive employment generating project. I would like to know whether livestock is included in the self-employment project and if so how many projects are continuing and how many are in the waiting list. I would like the hon. Minister to answer it straightaway.

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, these schemes like rural self-employment and other innovative projects like self employment for the youth and to group of people are introduced only from this year onwards. We are giving the projects from this year onwards. So, there is no pendency. These are new schemes and we are implementing them from this year onwards.

DR. ASIM BALA : Sir, I have asked whether the live stock like poultry and dairy are included in it or not.

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, it is about livestock. The Animal Husbandry Department has to reply.

SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Sir, just now a very important question has been raised by hon. Member Shri Bhatia.

But the crux of the whole problem is that in all the schemes of self-employment, entrepreneur scheme, D.R.D.A., I.R.D.A. or whatever be the scheme, the Committee recommends the cases to the nationalised banks and in those recommendatory Committees there are representatives of the lead banks also. But after that, when the cases go to the nationalised banks then the banks adopt their own discretion. They not only ask for security but do not advance the loan without bribe or corruption.

May I ask the hon. Minister, whether he is considering that when the lead bank representative is already there on the recommendatory Committee why should there be any discretion with the banks, particularly when the areas are fixed and targets are fixed? There should be no discretion and whatever cases are recommended by these Committees when their agencies are fixed, be it for self employment or entrepreneur scheme, these cases should be considered for advancing of loans.

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, from time to time, we are giving directions to the Chief Managers of the banks to implement the district plans. Whatever plans they take up at the district level, they must achieve those targets. There is no compromise on it. From time to time, we are giving directions to them. (Interruptions)

SHRI I.D. SWAMI : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, my question is something different.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this is a very important scheme whereunder our rural youth and the people living below poverty line are getting employment. But the items produced by these industries do not find easy marketing. May I know from the honourable Minister whether Government propose to provide some marketing facilities to these people ? Whether contract and evaluation method adopted by the Finance Ministry in respect of this scheme is working satisfactorily ? Is there any Lacuna ? Whether the contract evaluation scheme prepared by an NGO is still continuing and if not whether the Government will consider operating the scheme

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we will consider the suggestion given by the hon. Minister.

[Translation]

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is alright that you have sent the information to concerned banks but I would like to say that bank managers ask for bank deposits before the cheques issued to the beneficiaries are honoured. I had myself distributed loan cheques in my area. They

say the loan will be given only against the bank deposit. This complaint is about every bank in Gujarat ...*(Interruptions)* Whether the hon. Minister will send instructions to bank managers not to insist on deposits in clearing the loan cheques and also disburse full amount of loan. The operation of small touts be stopped.

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, I will call a meeting of the concerned officers and give the necessary directions to them. This type of complaints are coming from so many States that there is some problem with the banks.

[Translation]

Launching Satellites

*203. DR. SAHEBRAO SUKRAM BAGUL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Satellites launched by India so far;

(b) the details of cost and achievements by each of these Satellites;

(c) whether the Government propose to launch more Satellites in future; and

(d) if so, the details of progress made in this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME PLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

(a) Twenty-five satellites have been launched by India so far.

(b) Details of cost and achievements of these satellites are given in the Annexure.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The follow-on satellites in the INSAT series, INSAT-2D and INSAT-2E, Planned for launch by the end of 1996 and 1997, respectively, are in an advanced stage of development and fabrication.

The follow-on satellites in the IRS series, IRS-1D and IRS-P4, planned for launch during 1997/98, are under fabrication.

Two experimental communication satellites, namely, GSAT-1 and GSAT-2 are planned for launch by first two developmental launches of Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) during 1997/98 and 1998/99, respectively.

ANNEXURE

Details of cost and achievements of satellites launched by India

S.No.	Satellites	Cost (in Crores)	Launch Date	Achievements
1	2	3	4	5
1	Aryabhata	5.09	19.04.1975	Successful. First Indian satellite. Provided technological experience in building and operating a satellite system. Launched by Russian launch vehicle Intercosmos. Free launch.
2	Bhaskara-I	7.95	07.06.1979	Successful. First experimental remote sensing satellite. Carried TV and microwave cameras. Launched by Russian launch vehicle Intercosmos. Free launch.
3	Bhaskara-II		20.11.1981	Successful. Second experimental remote sensing satellite similar to Bhaskara-I. Provided experience in building and operating a remote sensing satellite system on an end-to-end basis. Launched by Russian launch vehicle Intercosmos. Free launch.
4	Ariane Passenger Payload Experiment (APPLE)	17.97	19.6.1981	Successful. First experimental communication satellite. Provided experience in building and operating a three axis