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Title: Need to initiate a new set of economic measures to tackle the global economic recession affecting Indian economy.

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (DURGAPUR): Joblessness is fast rising in India and according to a survey of the Ministry of labour and employment in which 2,581 units covering 20 centres across 11 states and eight major sectors like the textiles, garment industry, metals and metal products, information technology, business process outsourcing, automobiles, gems and jewellery, transportation, construction and mining industries were included. The total employment in these sectors had come down from 16.2 million in September, 2008 to 15.7 million by December, 2008 due to the global recession affecting the Indian Industry.

India's exports, too, have been declining every month since October, 2008 due to slump in demand in the U.S. and Europe. Many units have downed their shutters and laid off their staff. If this trend continues, it is quite likely that it would render another 5,00,000 workers jobless before March 31 as stated by Secretary, Ministry of Commerce.

On the one hand joblessness is fast rising due to liberalization policy like privatization of public sector, opening up insurance sector, FDI in multibrand retail, supply of seeds by the multinational companies, closing down of fertilizer units of public sector and Satyam episode and on the other hand there is a policy of Forward Trading which is not conducive to our economy. There is a need to make available food at affordable price to poor people and to identify the actual number of people who are living below the poverty line. In order to resist the economic slow down, I urge upon the Government to initiate land-reforms and implement Swaminathan Committee report, make provision for fund and investment in infrastructure development, revive the closed public sector units, policy of PF to the unorganized sector workers, strengthen public distribution system, levy taxes on corporate houses, relax excise duty for small investors, uniform tax structure and proper distribution policy of iron ore and other minerals policy and wage cut and retrenchment should not be allowed.