

15.37 hrs.

ERADICATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT BILL—  
*Contd.*

[English ]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri G.M. Banatwalla on the 10th April, 1987, namely:

"That the Bill to provide for a scheme for eradication of unemployment from the country, be taken into consideration."

Dr. Rajhans to continue.

[Translation ]

DR. G.S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I was saying last time that Shri Banatwalla has done a commendable job by bringing this Bill.

I have gone through this Bill and whatever points he has included in it are worthy of praise. In my view, at present no other problem is so acute as the unemployment.

Three things, namely food, clothing and shelter are said to be the basic needs of mankind. But these needs can be fulfilled only when one has got employment. However, the situation in regard to the employment is such that whether it is in cities or in rural areas the number of educated and uneducated unemployed persons is so huge that a sensible person fails to understand as to how to solve the problem of unemployment.

15.38 hrs.

[SHRI N.VENKATA RATNAM *in the Chair* ]

I would like to tell you about my experience. As many as 4 to 5 lakhs persons belonging to my constituency

and other nearby constituencies have migrated to Delhi, Faridabad, Ghaziabad, Ballabgarh and Noida in search of employment. They run from pillar to post in search of jobs. Their condition is so pitiable that only those persons can understand their plight who come into their contact. I meet about 300 to 400 persons daily who come in search of jobs. Tears roll my eyes when I see their plight. I fail to understand as to how to help them in seeking jobs. There is a wrong notion in the minds of the people that only an M.P. can secure them a job. I write letters to my acquaintances but they have their limitations. After all to what extent they can help in securing jobs to them. Shri Banatwalla has provided in the Bill that some kind of relief, dole or allowances should be provided to those unemployed persons whose names are registered, with the employment exchanges. I have thought over this problem. There are two aspects of this problem. I have seen in the western countries that whenever unemployment relief has been provided to such persons, they have become indolent and do not make any efforts to search for jobs. In our own country unemployment relief or allowance is provided to unemployed persons in some states but the sum is very negligible. A graduate is provided Rs. 25 or Rs. 30 in a month. What one can do with this meagre sum. Shri Banatwalla has said that it will entail an expenditure of Rs. 100 crores. But with Rs. 100 crores how many persons could be provided unemployment relief or allowance? What I mean to say is, if you provide this kind of relief to the unemployed, each person will get Rs. 10, Rs. 20 or Rs. 25 every month. How he would be able to meet his needs with this meagre amount? This is the moot point. Rs. 100 crores is not a big amount. This can be provided but this cannot solve the problem. For solving this problem we will have to understand it in depth and with an open mind we will have to think as to how the population can be checked so that the problem of unemployment may not become acute in the coming years. We will also have to think as to how we can provide them with gainful employment? There are crores of educated youths in the villages

who have no work. I have seen in Delhi that Ist class post graduates from Bihar do the job of cleaning utensils in small hotels. This brings tears into my eyes. We will have to solve this problem collectively. There is a great disparity. On the one hand on M.A with First class cleans utensils in the hotel and on the other, a matriculate who managed to get a job in an organised industry by resorting to blackmail or by taking the help of some big union or by some other illegal manner, is now getting Rs. 4 thousand as salary. I have myself got one such person a job 7 to 8 years ago. This is a contradiction and God knows where it will end. You might have seen in the trains that when person tries to get into a compartment, the passengers in the compartment first do not allow him to enter into their compartment, but when once he manages to get into the compartment, he himself does not allow any other person to enter into his compartment at other stations. Similar is the condition of the organised sector. The person who somehow manages to get a job in organised sector, wants more and more overtime allowance and also that his emoluments may increase five times. He wants that Wage Boards should sit every year so that salaries are enhanced. He does not want to be satisfied with whatever he gets and give an opportunity to the employer, whether in the Private or in the Public Sector, to employ new people.

The employer is also very clever. Whenever he wants to bring out a new product, he offers them some overtime allowance to extricate himself from this daily blackmailing. He does not recruit new people on a permanent basis. He recruits people for one or two months as casual workers. He terminates their employment after two months. Then those persons are not able to get service in that factory for 4 or 5 years. What I mean to say is that he is not able to get gainful employment. The hon. Minister should understand this situation properly.

In the organised sector the people take overtime work forcibly. This denies job opportunities to new people. You can see

this happening in the banks. The people may not be aware that in the banks, overtime is taken by force and by blackmail. The trade union leaders force the managers to pay overtime for 8 hours for the work which they complete within 2 hours during the working hours itself. In other words, they demand 8 hours of overtime allowance for the work which they are able to complete within 2 hours. Please, try to understand this problem. I want to submit this point in the House and I want to challenge that these people are denying employment to those who are not able to find work in the rural areas and are migrating to cities in search of work. You have to think about this problem seriously and also contemplate as to how to give employment to the maximum number of people. It should not be that only a handful may enjoy and the rest may remain deprived of every benefit.

I want to submit one or two more points. Several schemes like I.R.D.P., N.R.E.P., I.R.L.P. have been launched under the 20 Point Programme. Have you ever thought as to how many people have actually been benefited from these programmes? ....(Interruptions ) ..... There is nothing wrong with the policies. In every state, the implementation of such programmes is tardy. I also want to urge upon my friends in my own party that they should make some efforts for the proper monitoring of these schemes, especially of the employment programmes to ensure that the intended beneficiaries are able to get gainful employment and these schemes do not remain mere formalities.

We will have to see as to who are the people who are actually receiving the benefits? Unless we inform the people about these schemes and make them aware that the money which others are pocketing is actually meant for them, there will neither be any improvement in the system nor will the people get any employment. Today the masses think that they are nothing to do with the schemes like IRDP and NREP. But the representatives of the people must inform them that these programmes have been formulated for their

[Dr. G.S. Rajhans]

welfare and that the Government is spending only for them and that they alone are entitled to these benefits. They will have to be vigilant so that the money is spent judiciously. The unemployment problem can be solved to a great extent if these programmes are implemented properly. In this connection, I want to quote the famous economist Keenes who said that in order to control deficit financing we should get wells dug at day time and get them filled during night and this process should be repeated every day. It will help in generating employment. We have a large foodgrain stock with us and it can be utilised to give people gainful employment and the cultivators can also get remunerative prices. There are several ways of giving employment to the people. Hon. Shri Banatwalla wants that unemployment allowance should be provided to check brain drain of skilled and unskilled workers. I would say that brain-drain is a regretful thing. A doctor's education costs the country about Rs. 1 lakh. To educate an engineer it costs Rs. 60 to 70 thousand. When that doctor or the engineer migrates to some other country, the country loses a lot. However, when a doctor or an engineer loiters about without work and becomes frustrated that is even sadder. I would say that I see no harm in brain-drain because even if people go abroad for employment they will bring money back home as they will inevitably come back some day. Moreover, if he stays abroad he will be sending some amount back home. I, therefore cannot find any justification in giving unemployment allowance. I want to offer my own example. I used to stay in U.S.A. many years ago. I had a very good job and I earned about 2000 dollars a month. I was a professor there. When I wanted to come here the Indians there dissuaded and discouraged me from doing so, stating that I will not get any job here and will repent my decision. I had an attachment with the Indian soil. On coming back, how much I had to suffer that only I know. When I went to Bihar for employment, I was asked about my caste. I asked them as to what is the relationship between caste and job? They said that caste is important and qualifications have no

meaning.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The time allotted for the subject is over.

SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS (Jajpur): Please extend it by two hours.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If it is the consensus of the House, I have no objection.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes, we agree.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Rajhans, you may continue.

[Translation]

DR. G.S. RAJHANS: I was saying that I had to do a job in a private college for a salary of Rs. 200. After that I had to struggle hard and I actually shed tears for having left U.S.A. and came to know as to why thousands of people never come back. Then I felt that they were doing right thing. After all what value the educated people have here? Therefore, regarding brain drain, I will say that let them go and settle down there. They will certainly send 500 or 1000 dollars out of the 2000 dollars which each of them will earn. You do not allow them to go abroad and compel them to rot here. You want to give them Rs. 100 as unemployment allowance and expect them to survive on it. Is it justified? It has been said in this Bill that unemployment dole should be provided only to those persons whose names are registered with employment exchanges. But I have a very bitter experience in this regard. I know that to get one's name registered with Employment Exchange is a hell of a job. About 100 to 150 people from my constituency come to me every day complaining that they are not able to get their names registered. I ring up the Employment Exchange, I write them letters and even request them humbly to enroll them. Often I have taken the help of some hon. Minister and after a lot of persuasion the names of these people have been registered. Thereafter, for 5 to 7 years no call letters are issued to them. Firstly, it is

very difficult to get one's name registered in the Employment Exchange. They find plenty of pretexts to deprive you of it. If you are from some other state, say from Bihar, they will question the genuineness of your certificates. How will a candidate tell whether his certificate is fake or not? Then they will presume that you might have already registered your name in your home State and as such they will refuse to enroll you even if you strongly deny having done so. Therefore, hon. Shri Banatwala should not insist on this condition of providing relief to only those whose names are registered with the Employment Exchange. In fact, no such relief should be provided. On the contrary, we have to see as to how to provide jobs to the people. In the South Delhi area where I say, there is a small electrician's shop. If he is called for even a minor repair he charges Rs. 30. Even the doctor does not charge such a heavy fee. The carpenter when called charges Rs. 50, the plumber charges Rs. 25. If these so called technical people whose training is also not very expensive charge such high rates, then we should persuade people to become carpenters, plumbers and electricians for it will help in solving the unemployment problem to a considerable extent. Otherwise, how can such a large number of people with B.A and M.A degrees get employment? If I gather enough courage to tell them to become trained electricians as this training will fetch them jobs, they refuse to do so saying that they cannot do such work after acquiring University degrees. The entire fault lies with our education system. Such huge battalions of hungry, unemployed people have been created. On the Television every day it is shown that girls should not get married at a tender age and how a child should be immunised. All this is very good but if it is also shown that general education is not useful and technical education is of more value, then within the next five years the present tendency will vanish and people will somehow or the other get technical education and adopt some technical trade, and the problem of unemployment will be solved considerably. It is a very serious problem. It is not such an easy matter as it appears to be. I am

afraid that if you go to Bihar you will find more incidents of crime there than in Punjab. These are the figures. But Bihar is never in the news. I am not saying that the State Government has proved to be a failure. On the contrary, it is functioning quite well. But a large army of unemployed youths are taking to violent ways using country made guns out of sheer anger. They do not have food to eat, clothes to wear, and house to live. After all what can they do? First, they could get jobs in Calcutta but now that avenue has also been shut as it can offer no more jobs because of sickness of the industry. Therefore, they are migrating to Delhi nowadays but due to the high cost of living in the capital, they are compelled to return to their native place. When they return to their home-towns they have to listen to the constant taunts of their parents and neighbours. In the end they are forced to resort to violence. Before this violence spreads to the whole society we should consider this problem seriously and find a solution to it. It is most important to accord it the highest priority and we should make concerted efforts to solve this problem.

16.00 hrs.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for calling me to participate in this discussion on the Eradication of Unemployment Bill, 1985, brought forward by Shri Banatwalla.

On the face of it, one is tempted to support the Bill. The Bill sounds really very good. But, one who has an idea of the real situation of the country, one who is acquainted with the different problems - the magnitude of the problems - and also the difficulties facing the country, the difficulties the Government is confronting with and more so from the practical standpoint, the question of supporting the Bill does not arise.

I again emphatically say that the Bill sounds very well and one will be tempted to

[Sh. Sriballav Panigrahi]

support the Bill, but looking at the gravity of the situation and taking a practical stand I feel restrained to support the Bill, rather I oppose the Bill.

There is no denying the fact that the unemployment problem is a very-very serious problem - a grave one. It has assumed alarming proportions and day by day it is going from 'grave' to 'graver'. But at the same time, looking at the situation all round the world, I think, everywhere, even in the developed countries, in socialist countries, this problem is raising its head in different ways and in different forms. Here, developed countries I mean America and Sweden and other countries.

Last summer, I had the privilege of visiting Sweden, as a Member of a Parliamentary Delegation. Sweden has the distinction of having highest per capita income in the world today. In that country, also we find, there are unemployed people. The total population of Sweden is less than the population of our Calcutta city. It is about 85 lakhs - 8.5 millions. But they are one of the richest countries of the world. Even in that situation, they are having an unemployment problem. The unemployed youths are, of course given unemployment allowance @ about 3600 to 4800 per month, in terms of the Indian currency, totalling to or at any rate from Rs. 3600 to Rs. 4,800 per month in terms of Indian currency. Look at this in terms of Indian currency around Rs. 4000 or Rs. 5000 per month is paid as an unemployment allowance to an unemployed Swedish young man; and there the usual income will be double. But can we, in a country like India, think of it where we have fantastic growth in population, phenomenal growth in population? At the time of independence, it was about 35 crores; now it is more than double; it has exceeded 70 crores. Although we have made a lot of strides in different fields - progress, prosperity, agricultural growth, industrial production - but the fruits of these things have not gone down to the poor people due to different reasons and fast population growth. Therefore, the problem is somewhat different. Had the population growth been contained,

naturally the poverty of this nature would not have been there in the country today? But, anyway, when poverty is there, what is required is to have all-out efforts to attack poverty and that actually the government is doing. But, at the same time, I find that there is a problem of contradiction in India; one problem is that we are having numerous problems; another problem is being added to them. Even in this House in today's deliberations it was mentioned. Today we had a debate on the defence budget. There is a demand. I do not say that it is unreasonable. After effectively serving, purposefully serving with taking risks, serving with the utmost amount of patriotism for long 20 years, after retirement, our ex-service men should be given suitable jobs in civil services. This has been our demand. Think for a moment. I do not say that it is unreasonable, but I say that we are suffering from the disease of contradiction in India. To the already existing numerous problems this problem is being added to. What is that? We find that the unemployment is growing menacingly. At the same time, we say that there is a demand to reduce the age of retirement from 58 to 55; some say, 50. On the other hand, people are coming forward with a plea that the period of longevity has gone up; and since the health condition is now much better even after 60 people are fit enough to take strenuous jobs. Why not they also be provided with the jobs? Why do they suffer in the evening of their life after retirement, etc.

Another contradiction is that we make a strong plea for absorption, for employment, for recruitment, for unemployed people into different public sector organisations, government jobs, factories, etc. On the other hand, government does come forward and say, for the sake of austerity measures, to tighten their financial position to make profit instead of making loss, that all vacant posts need not be filled up. So, these are the contradictions. For everything there are reasons. You cannot say that there is absolutely no substance in the arguments on this side as well as on the other side. The real problem is that we have to try by

all methods to contain this growth of population. We have to speed up our economic development; we have to do it in such a manner that we achieve economic prosperity; our rate of industrial growth, agricultural growth, GNP, that all becomes faster and more. And at the same time also, the benefits should reach equitably to all sections of the people, more so to the people, who are unemployed and underemployed, thousands, millions of those in the agricultural sector in the rural areas. India, as you know, Sir, is primarily an agricultural country with 80 per cent of the people living in the villages and 70 percent people directly dependant on agriculture, and therefore, Gandhiji the Father of the Nation rightly observed that India lives in villages, and if India is to develop we have to pay particular attention to the villages. Gandhiji strove hard in this direction and while engaged in such noble work, he breathed his last. His mission was to develop the villages, to build up the village as a unit, to make the village strong. Had that been done, if we had succeeded in that much of this problem of unemployment will automatically be solved and there will be no occasion for Mr. Banatwalla to bring such a bill. So, naturally what is required? The requirement of India today is, as I was telling you, to bring more and more irrigated areas under double crop or under three crops and that will naturally take care of this problem.

Further we are having a lot of big and heavy industries, but the irony of the fate is, the contradiction is, there are States with maximum central investment on big or heavy steel plants, or heavy plants and major industries. But such of the States are today at the top of the list of poor States, poverty-wise such of those States, Bihar and Orissa they lead the list of States, poverty-wise. What does it mean? Whereas States like Punjab, where there are not many heavy industries, major industries, but since agriculture has developed there, cottage industries have developed there, there the per capita income is much higher and as you know the level of income of Punjab I need not also discuss it here. So, naturally we have to lay stress on cottage industries

and small industries, etc. Of course, there will be ancillary industries as an outcome of big industries. Every year hundreds of cottage industries can be started. The cottage industries can grow, the small scale industries can grow, but at the same time technology and about our strategy it is time to think about it. We just cannot ignore importing advanced technology, since we are entering -- determined to enter the -- -twenty-first century with a determined bid, to take a leading place in the world, naturally we cannot just live in isolation or cannot depend on traditional methods. But at the same time looking at the large number of people to be recruited, they have to be provided in that area, we have to see, and arrive at a via media and ensure that we become modern, we get modern technology and we utilise it, we also should create employment for our vast majority of young men, educated young men, who are anxiously waiting to get jobs.

So, what I mean to say is, generally the new technology, the advanced technology is capital oriented and anti-labour. We have to develop the approach, there should be more planning so that we can become modern, and we compete with the rest of the world, we can get the right position on the international map. But at the same time we can take care of the unemployed, of our teeming millions including those who are facing hunger and poverty and all that. This way, the Gandhian economy, Gandhian philosophy also in today's context will have to be kept in mind. I do not say that what Gandhiji used to say during independence struggle that should be kept in letter and spirit. But keeping the spirit we have to make some amends here and there. We have to keep that as our blueprint and then we can develop our own.

Another suggestion I would like to give you. There are educated unemployed, uneducated, who are under-employed or half-employed in our country. In an agricultural country like ours 29 per cent of the people are landless labourers. Another 40 per cent own land to what extent? - to the extent of 1 or less than 1 hectare. Think for a moment of 40 per cent and 29 per cent.

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About 70 per cent of the people are landless and marginal farmers. Land is concentrated in the hands of a very few people. That concentration of land has to be broken seriously and vigorously by implementing land reform laws. While going for land reforms seriously, also we cannot close our eyes towards concentration of wealth and land in our urban areas. We have also to go in for urban land ceiling and property ceiling. Those who are setting up industries, now it seems, they are above all these laws. Why is that so? We have to have such a pattern that there will be limit to the income of even those industrial management, industry owners; otherwise, there will be no equity; there will be imbalance further created. We, as Members of Parliament, also do not have a total picture. Whatever problem comes, we apply our mind instantly and we act accordingly. We also plead to satisfy that section. Thereby sometimes, we are contributing to the growing imbalance in the country rather than having a perfect solution, comprehensive solution of the matter. This is a serious matter.

Why to give allowance? If you give allowance, that will kill the incentive. Moreover, how much can you pay when we have public servants, Government servants ill paid? There was a scheme during Janata Government time of barefoot doctors. And the irony of fate is that they are paid Rs. 50/- per month. In this amount, what sort of work you can extract from them. It is just waste. Why should you keep them? If you keep them, give them sufficient work, give them a decent salary so that they work properly and manage themselves with what they get. Like that we have millions and millions of people under-paid, even some of them who are Government employees. When that is the situation, how can you talk about as to what amount we will pay? We have widow pension, old age pension in the range of Rs. 40 and Rs. 50. How will it solve the problem of young men? It cannot be solved. Our Constitution makers had well visualised that position. That is why, probably they did not include right to work in the Fundamental Rights. What is necessary is to create work potential, create

employment potential so that everybody gets an opportunity to work and earn a decent living and thus leads a decent life. That should be our motto. Naturally that way our Government is trying in a modest way. But these efforts will have to be supplemented and augmented with a realistic view.

Now, in that direction I have a suggestion. The youngmen in universities and colleges are restless because they are not sure about their future. Even men with qualifications - doctorate, M.Phil, M.A., first class pass, they do not get job. I have come across B.A., M.A., coming for loadership, *coolieqiri* in coal mine. I would suggest that the youngmen after they come out from their colleges till they are fully employed, be engaged in several constructive programmes. We have sufficient of food stock.

We can send a large number of them to the villages. You will be astonished to know that even to-day, after 40 years of independence, 36% villages are to be linked by road. We can utilise the services of these young men for construction of roads to connect the villages. For four to five months you bear their expenditure. Give them pocket expenditure besides food expenditure. Provide them with food. We can engage them for construction of roads. That will serve two purposes.

As you know, idle brain is devil's workshop. You provide them the job, they will not remain idle. They will do some job. They will have the sense of dignity of labour. It is very much essential in our society, in the educational pattern. This way, it can be taken note of.

I rather say, this is a good Bill in the sense of providing an opportunity for a useful discussion. But taking things as they are in India, it is far from a practical approach. It is not practical. It is just theoretical. What is required is, to fight out poverty, to speed up economic development and to ensure equitable distribution of our wealth for which this Congress Government has been working all the time-from

Panditji's time, Indira Gandhi's time and now under the leadership of Shri Rajiv Gandhi. This Government is engaged in this noble job of alleviating poverty, of eradicating poverty from the soil of India and to see that every one - even the lowest of the men, poorest of the poor, gets a smile on his face.

With this I thank you once again and I conclude my speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri A.J.V.B. Maheswara Rao.

[Translation]

\*SHRI A.J.V.B. MAHESWARA RAO (Amalapuram): Mr Chairman, Sir, I wholeheartedly support the Unemployment Eradication Bill, 1985 introduced by Shri Banatwala. Sir, we have completed six Five Year Plans and are on the verge of the completion of 7th Five Year Plan. All that we could achieve during these years is to turn out millions and millions of unemployed youth in the country. There is some defect some where in our planning which is contributing to unemployment. Now the unemployment problem has assumed monstrous proportion. Because of the defective planning, the gap between education and employment is widening further and further. The number of persons graduating from our Universities, colleges and schools is much more than the jobs created in the country. This lopsided policy of encouraging education without employment opportunities is the main reason why unemployment problem is assuming such serious proportions. Providing educational opportunities is good, but at the same time it is also necessary that we should create employment opportunities in the same proportion. This is the responsibility of the Govt. The Govt. should try to bridge the gap between education and employment. Sir, what is the use in producing 10,000 engineers when we need only 1,000 engineers. We will be able to absorb only 1000 engineers and the rest would turn out to be unemployed. Hence there should be proper planning. The balance between education and employment should be well

maintained. Steps have to be taken to remove the defect in the existing planning and make it more employment oriented.

Sir, the Govt. is spending crores of rupees on education. Much is spent in preparing doctors engineers, scientists and academicians. Though a huge amount is spent on the education and training of these professionals, no care has been taken to utilise their services by providing proper employment to them. We are not in a position to utilise them and their talents in sharpening the India that we dream of since there are no avenues open for them in this country, these highly talented professionals are migrating to other countries. Other countries are deriving immense benefit from these talented youngsters. Sir, we need these talented youngsters more than any one else. The brain drain will have to be stopped at any cost. Proper atmosphere has to be created within this country, so that they can come back and contribute to the glorious future. Many of them who have settled abroad are very much eager to come back and work for the progress of the country. The Govt. should try to find ways and means to bring these glorious sons and daughters back to our mother land. Many of them have made significant contribution in various fields. We must feel proud of them. Now they are willing to come and contribute to our prosperity.

Sir, there are many non-resident Indians who have settled abroad and are willing to invest both in terms of money and material in their mother land. These non-resident Indians can invest here not only their money but also their technical skills. But due to misfortunate have a cumbersome procedure, red tapism standing in the way of their investment. The present policy of the Govt. is making the NRI's reluctant to invest their money in the very country where they were born. We have failed to create an atmosphere in the country in which they can invest their money and talent safely. We are dreaming of entering the 21st century. The dream of entering 21st century can be realised within no time by creating proper atmosphere in the

\* The speech was originally delivered in Telugu



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country for the investment of non-resident Indians. The NRIs are very eager to invest their money here. They are willing to set up industries here. They are willing to take up various developmental activities. But there is no encouragement whatsoever from the Central Govt. The Govt has singularly failed in providing facilities to NRIs to set up industries here. Hence I earnestly appeal to this Govt to take steps to create proper atmosphere for the investment of non-resident Indians. Sir, our beloved Chief Minister Shri. N.T. Rama Rao had visited United States in 1984 on the special mission of wooing the Andhriles and Indians settled there to invest and contribute in industrialisation of their mother land. Our Chief Minister has succeeded in his effort to make them invest their money in this country and especially in Andhra Pradesh. They had shown keen interest in setting up industries here. But all the efforts and the interest of NRI's have gone waste on account of red tapism and cumbersome and unending procedures of this Govt. Hence the need of the hour is to remove redtapism and cumbesome procedure at once. I appeal to this Govt to initiate steps in this direction without any loss of time. I hope and trust that this Govt should take steps to create proper atmosphere for the investment of the non-resident Indian. We can make rapid strides in the industrialisation of the country. It will contribute to the prosperity of the country. By pursuing this policy, enough employment can also be generated. The dream of entering the 21st century will come true.

Side by side we have to develop further in agricultural sector. It will give a boost to employment generation in the country. Our planning should be such that whatever programmes are taken up they should contribute to our employment potential. Sir, at present there are various vocational education programmes in the country. Enough interest is shown initially in the vocational education programmes. But this initial enthusiasm evaporates within no time. There is no proper mechanism to review these programmes from time to time. As such, all these programmes did not

contribute in any way in solving the unemployment problem. All the programmes which were meant to create employment have failed miserably.

Sir, thousands of persons are qualifying every year from our educational institutions. But there are no employment opportunities for them. As they do not have any work to do and to earn a piece of bread, they fall a prey into the hands of unsocial and anti-national elements. These very innocent people due to utter frustration turn out to be anti-social and anti-national, thus creating a law and order problem everywhere. Majority of the nexalites are educated people. Similarly many of the terrorists are the educated unemployed youth. Society and Govt. have to be blamed for this sad state of affairs. Had we provided them employment, they would have had some food to eat and some shelter over their heads. They would not have been misled by any unsocial or anti-national elements. Hence steps should be taken to provide employment to them should be utilised properly. We should provide employment the moment they come out with degrees and diplomas in their hand.

Another important point that I want to mention is that of age limit for various jobs in the country. What is the use of fixing age limit when the Govt. is in no position to provide employment. Either provide employment or remove age barrier. Many of the degree holders are not in a position to find employment because of the age restriction. Now they are on the streets earning their livelihood by pulling cycleriskshaws. Most come across such people every day. They speak English fluently, and when one enquires about their qualifications they reveal their high academic qualifications. One finds such a miserable situation nowhere else except in India.

Parents provide education to their children facing many difficulties. They brave all the difficulties with the hope that their educated children would one day occupy good positions and provide them some support. But when their children turn

out to be the educated unemployed, their miseries grow manifold. Their dreams are shattered. Finally many of such families face ruin. In order to rescue such families it is necessary to provide dole to the educated unemployed. I hope the Govt. would take steps to provide dole to the educated unemployed. I hope the Govt. would take steps to provide relief by giving unemployment doles to the educated youth in the country.

Sir, merely providing of Rs. 40 or 50 as desired by certain hon. Members is not sufficient. It is the responsibility of the Govt. to look after the unemployed till they are employed. Hence the Govt. should try to discharge this responsibility.

Sir, even for the jobs in private sector, one has necessarily to go through the Employment Exchanges. But rarely does the private sector honour its commitment by appointing candidates sponsored by the employment exchange. Hence the Govt. should take up responsibility on its shoulders in filling up jobs in private sector as well. Similarly various expansion schemes should also be taken up to create more employment potential. The problem of unemployment can be solved to some extent that way.

Sir, the country is blessed with enough natural resources. My State of Andhra Pradesh is very rich in natural resources. These resources have to be tapped for the progress and prosperity of our nation. The tapping of these natural resources can generate employment. Hence steps should be taken to tap our resources. Our Planning should be formulated in such a way as to employ our vast man power for better utilisation of natural resources for the progress and prosperity of the nation. I hope, the Govt would reformulate our planning of these lines in the days to come.

Sir, I conclude my speech thanking you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

\*SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO  
(Chikballapur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, today

we are discussing a vital issue. The problem of unemployment is growing day by day. It is standing before the people of our country like a devil. It is high time for the true Government to take steps to root out this problem from the country.

We have achieved sufficient progress in the field of agriculture. In spite of this, agricultural sector is not in a position to tackle the problem of unemployment. The main reason for this is the fragmentation of land. The land holding is getting reduced gradually on one hand and on the other there is the population explosion. Therefore, we have to think of other sectors to tackle this situation of unemployment. The next alternative is naturally industrial sector.

Our country is one of the few countries which have achieved great success in the field of industry and modern technology. Even industrial sector also is not in a position to cope up with the problem of unemployment. Hence it is very essential to expand industrial sector to provide more and more jobs to the unemployed youth. New industries have to be set up especially in rural areas. I am stressing this point because our country lives in villages. More than 70% of the people live in villages and most of them are agriculturists. Hence the industries should move to the nook and corners of the country. Crores of rupees are being spent by the Government. But what is the result. There is no proper utilisation of this allocation. Planning in the industrial sector is not satisfactory. This has to be set right. Then we have to concentrate on irrigation. We have to bring more area under irrigation. Unless this is done there is no solution for the problem of unemployment in our country.

Our late lamented leader Indira Gandhi has done a lot for the amelioration of the poor masses. Our leader and Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi is also releasing yeoman service for the emancipation of the poor lot. Our Government's dedicated service for the upliftment of the people who live below poverty line is really commendable.

\*The speech was originally delivered in Kannada.

[Sh. V. Krishna Rao]

Even then we have the problem of unemployment all over the country. The 20-point programme has commendable objectives. RLEGP, NREP and other programmes are really helping the villagers to improve their standard of living. This 20-point programme has also not solved the problem of unemployment completely. This is mainly because of population increase. The programmes of family planning have to be implemented properly and strictly. In countries like America, Japan etc. the families are small. On the contrary in our country family planning is not being adhered to by all the people. Controlling increase in population is very essential for the progress of our country. If this is not done, all our planning and estimates will be futile exercises.

Abundant man power is being wasted in our country. Natural resources are also not tapped to the expected level. Skills of the persons are being wasted. These are all the results of unemployment. This problem has led to unrest among the youth. There are agitations, bank robberies, thefts etc. in the country. Even the terrorist activities are nothing but the result of unemployment.

For all these problems facing our country, the basic solution lies in our educational system. A person with M.A. degree will apply for the post of a clerk or conductor or door keeper. Colleges and other educational institutions are busy in awarding degrees to the youth. Hence it is very essential to bring in structural changes in our educational system.

Our new educational policy should be able to tackle this problem. As enunciated in the new policy education should be job oriented. Throughout the country we have to encourage vocationalisation of education.

Finally I reiterate that expansion of industries in rural areas, strict implementation of family planning a very good system of vocational education and increase in irrigation facilities would

ultimately solve the problem of unemployment.

I thank Shri Banatwala for bringing such a fine Bill to highlight very important issues in this August House. I hope our Govt. will take all necessary steps to eradicate this problem of unemployment. I thank you Sir, for giving this opportunity to speak and with these words I conclude my speech.

\*SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS (Jajpur):  
Mr Chairman, Sir, the Bill regarding eradication of Unemployment moved by Shri G.M. Banatwala is being discussed in the House. The provisions have been made in the Bill for unemployment allowance to the unemployed youths in different parts of the country. Some State Govts. are giving unemployment allowance. But by giving unemployment allowance we cannot solve this grave problem. The unemployed persons will not be able to come up with the meagre amount of allowances being given to them. Therefore, we have to see as to how more and more jobs can be created and more and more unemployed youths can be absorbed in those jobs. We should help those unemployed youths to improve their lot. If they get some jobs they can maintain their families, look after their old parents and live in the society with dignity. So we have to consider all these aspects and help them to be equal with other people living in the society. Shri Banatwala while moving his Bill said the number of unemployed persons in 1980 has increased by 62% in 1985. The number of the unemployed persons in 1985 was 26.2 million. We should not take this figure as correct one. Because the number of uneducated unemployed persons has not been included in this estimate. If you include them this figure will further increase. So we may add 25% or 30% more to the present figure and that should be taken as the correct appropriate figure of the unemployed persons in the country. While we are thinking of providing employment to all the unemployed persons. We have to take into consideration all the unemployed persons and make plans accordingly.

\* The speech was originally delivered in Oriya.

India is a democratic and socialistic country. Merely by talking we cannot bring socialism. We have to make all possible efforts to achieve this objective. J.R. Naik and Mahatma Gandhi are some of the persons who had taken active part in the freedom movement. Mahatma Gandhi had said that in order to provide equal rights and opportunities to all citizens, we have to lay stress on decentralisation. But every thing is now centralised. As a consequence thereof a limited number of people are enjoying all facilities in the society. They are getting jobs and thus able to earn good amount of money. The persons having good bank balance are able to set up industry. They are able to expand business. These moneyed men are exploiting the poor people. Our society should be free from exploitation. The fish lives in water. If we say that fish should not drink water how is it possible? Similarly we are living in a society where exploitation exists. Living in such society how can we speak of making it free from exploitation? Somebody may differ with my view. But I can prove that everybody in this country is involved in exploitation in some way or the other. India is a country where caste system is still in existence. There are thousands of people who are passing their days in dire poverty. There are some nomadic tribes living in our country. There are some primitive tribes who live half naked. Such people are living in some States. So we have to think of those people also.

[English]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY  
(Midnapore): Simply by thinking of those people you cannot change their condition.

\*SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: You do it. You are now in power in three States. First West Bengal should take some steps to provide employment and change the living condition of the poor people. Then Kerala and Tripura should follow West Bengal. If you show some example other States will follow you.

Mahatma Gandhi was doing what he was saying and he had advised everybody to do like that. Therefore people were inspired by the call given by Mahatma Gandhi and he could make the country free. Once upon a time or Communist friends were blaming the Centre for our failure to provide equal rights and opportunities to all citizens of this country. Now they are in power in three States. Let them provide comfortable living to their people by eradicating unemployment and poverty. Let them meet the minimum needs of their people. If they do so the non-Communist States will follow their example. But I tell you it is quite impossible in India. The villagers are now sub-divided. You will be surprised to know that the people living in one side of the village worship one deity whereas the people of other side worship some other deity. So there is no unity among the villagers. As I had said earlier the caste system is also responsible for the division of villages and the disunity among the villagers. So we are living in a iniquitous society. Today unity and integrity is the main question before us we have preserve our unity and integrity at any cost.

There was a saying in Sanskrit which means Goddess Laxmi will be pleased on you and you will become rich if you do business. If you do agriculture you will earn half of what you can earn from business. Half of that can be earned from service and if you go for begging you cannot save anything. If we go to the villages we find that the salaried people are now the only privileged class. Even a Class IV employee is able to earn good amount of money. The service holders particularly high officials are able to save money for their next generation. Therefore, I would like to say ;that the business communities are now not at the top, the officials who are now the rich people. Goddess Laxmi is pleased on them. A family is coming up if one member of the family gets a job. During the regime of Congress Government many schools have been established. The number of educated persons increased. On completion of their education they are searching jobs. If we provide one job to one member of the

\* The speech was originally delivered in Oriya.

[Sh. Anadi Charan Das]

family he can help the entire family. But it is regrettable that the number of such job seekers is increasing and we are not able to provide them any job. We should take a policy decision to provide one job to one member of family whether he is educated or uneducated. Therefore in my amendment I have said one family one job. Sir, there are many people who are working in daily wage basis. These people are not able to maintain their families properly. There is a wide difference between a worker and an employed. An employee is leading comfortable life, is able to provide education to his children whereas a worker is hardly getting two square meals a day. As the workers are passing their days in misery we have to do something for them. The wages of every worker whether he is agricultural labourer, industrial workers or construction worker should be increased so that he will be able to maintain his family and lead comfortable life. He should have security in the society. Every worker should be given job at least for 300 days in a year. We should have some well-thought out schemes first to provide jobs to every worker throughout the year, secondly to raise their daily wages and thirdly to restrict the recruitment to one member of a family. If we do this, we can help solving the unemployment problem to a great extent. If necessary we have to amend the Constitution. Because this a question of fundamental rights.

Sir, our Govt. have taken a number of steps to provide more job opportunities to the unemployed persons. There is no restriction. every member of a family is allowed to compete in any test. All successful candidates are getting jobs. Besides the Govt. have introduced many centrally sponsored schemes under which jobs are being provided to the rural people. Those are NREP, IRDP and RLEGP etc. There are all individual beneficiary schemes. But it is regrettable that these programmes are not being implemented properly. There is special component plan for Scheduled Castes and Tribal sub plan for Scheduled Tribes. I have to say a few words about the self-employment scheme. The Govt. have introduced this scheme to

provide employment to the educated unemployed particularly those who are living in the urban areas. Now it has been extended to the rural areas also. But I am sorry to say that this scheme is not able to provide benefit to the beneficiaries. 95% of the youths who have taken loans are not able to improve their vocation and therefore they are not able to repay the loans. I have conducted a survey in my area you make a country wide survey to find out the success achieved under the self employment scheme. You will get the clear picture. Hardly any beneficiary is able to become a good entrepreneur. The Govt. have sanctioned loan. This amount has gone to the market. The flow of money resulted in the rise in prices. Thus the value of money has declined. The production did not increase. This huge flow of credit could not generate employment. Of course, the people who have already got some business and somehow managed to get loan under this scheme are able to invest that in their old business and earn profit. Therefore, I urge upon Govt. once again to undertake survey at least panchayat wise or block-wise. We must find out the reasons of the failure of self-employment scheme. We have to find out the ways as to how the factors responsible for the failure of this scheme can be overcome. If we are not able to do that then we should forget this scheme, I mean forget about their self employment the way of doing some business with the loan provided by the Government. Rather we should think of providing them some jobs. There are still some ways through which we can engage them. Posts are reserved for SC ST and some other candidates for certain categories of jobs. I would like to suggest to the Govt. to extend this reservation facility to the couple doing inter caste marriage. The job should be reserved for either the husband or wife. If this is done this will have a great impact on our society. At the same time I would like to suggest to the Govt. to bring some radical changes and reform in our society as the old system does not suit the present conditions.

Sir, take the case of agriculture labourer. We have got many Govt. farms

where hundreds of workers work every day. But they are engaged in daily wage basis. They should be permanently employed on the farms and thus they will have some job security. The unskilled workers living in the villages can be employed on the Government farms. I wanted to bring it to your notice because these unskilled workers are roaming about here and there. If they are encouraged by providing them job security they will work on the farms very sincerely and help in increasing agricultural production. Unfortunately this aspect has been overlooked and a few 'Babus' or clerks who are appointed do not have any idea about farming. But the farm workers do not have job security. The farm managers do not keep them on work every day. So they are at the mercy of the farm managers on the other hand the so called 'Babus' or clerks etc. are appointed in the farms as permanent employees. During their service period they get their monthly salary and also earn extra money by unfair means. Because of their influence they manage to help their children in getting some jobs. They work till they complete 58 years of age. After their retirement they get pension benefits. So the persons without any knowledge about the farms enjoy all benefit whereas the unskilled workers who help increasing production in the farms pass their days in misery due to lack of proper job security. As such, I would like to request to the Govt. to make a survey of the agricultural farms owned and managed by the Govt. The unskilled agricultural workers engaged in those farms on daily wage basis should be made permanent. The service conditions existing for the farm employees should be made applicable for the agricultural workers.

I would like to say something about construction workers. There are many public undertakings who engaged the construction workers on temporary basis. They are engaged through the contractors. Though there are laws to provide certain benefits to the construction workers, those laws are not implemented properly. The contractors get all benefit - The construction workers are not well paid. Moreover they do not get any help from

the contractors whenever they fall ill. They do not get any financial help when they meet with accident. Therefore, I would like to suggest to the Govt to make a study of the condition of these workers. They should be directly appointed on a regular basis by the public sector undertakings. The contract system should be abolished. This will put an end to the exploitation. The construction workers can think of their better future if they enjoy the permanent status and job security.

A word about domestic servants. Many people have got domestic servants. Some of these domestic servants work as full time domestic servants. Some of them work on part time basis. The full time domestic servants stay with the owners. There are many Govt. employees who engage them. Because both wife and husband work in the offices. These full time servants take care of their children of their employers do the cooking at home and also do the household works. But in exchange they get nothing. These domestic servants get very low amount as monthly salary. When the employers do not like to keep them in job they drive them out on one plea or the other. The employers go to the extent of alleging that their domestic servants committed theft and ran away. You will be surprised to know that most of the domestic servants work for years together without any wages. When they finally leave the job out of disgust they are denied the payment. Therefore the Govt of India should conduct a country-wide survey to find out the number of persons engaged as domestic servants. The Govt. should forward a comprehensive legislation to protect the interest of the domestic servants. The employers should keep them on permanent basis. Like Govt. employees; they should be given retirement benefits.

Sir, we abolished zamindari system. The Rajas and Zamindars are no longer in power. They do not enjoy the privileges which they were getting when they were the rulers. The Banks were nationalised and by making laws we abolished money lending. But a new class is being created i.e. high paid employees. They are exploiting the

[Sh. Anandi Charan Das]

poor people who work at their residence as domestic servants. Apart from this, they are able to earn more money than their salary. So we should not allow them to exploit the poor people any longer.

The land lords who have possessed more than 10 acres of land have engaged the agricultural workers in their farm on temporary basis. They appoint the workers on seasonal basis or yearly basis. During these period they pay very low amount of wages to the workers. The landlords do not observe any labour laws or rules. In my opinion these landlords should not be allowed to engage any workers on temporary basis. The farm workers should be made permanent like the workes working in different plants set up by the private sectors.

Sir, till today we do not have any proper man power planning. The division of labour was based on caste system. After independence of course it is not like that. But our planning is defective perhaps somewhere. Many hon. Members while speaking on this Bill have said that due to defect in our planning as well as due to the population explosion the unemployment problem is mounting in our country. The job seekers, out of despair are committing crimes. They destroy the nation's prosperity. The increased unemployed persons are our surplus manpower. We should make a proper planning so that this surplus man power is suitably utilised. They should be taken as our assets and not as liability.

I have moved an amendment wherein I have stated that the tenure of service of a person under the Govt. shall not exceed 20 years and after service for a period of 20 years the employee shall be given a lump sum amount equilant to his 10 years pension and after a lapse of period of 10 years of his retirement, his pension shall be restored. If you do this the employees will get some good amount after they leave the job and with that money they can start some business. They can become good entrepreneurs. The people starting business at young age do not have sufficient fund.

They are not matured and they do not have family responsibilities. They do not have any thought for their future. These are the reasons of the failure of self-employment schemes. The people who start entrepreneurship after 20 years of service period owes grèater responsibility. He thinks of the future of his family. He has got money family obligations like providing education to the children, giving them marriage and looking after his parents etc. He is an experienced person and therefore can do well if starts industry or starts some business. About 3 lakhs 25 thousands people retire every year in India and the equal number of people fill up those vacancies. If the employees would be retired on completion of 20 years of service those vacancies can be filled up by the unemployed persons. Lakhs of people can be provided employment in this way. But we have to amend the Constituton if we will do so. Because this may create great resentment among the salaried people as it is a question of their fundamental rights. But our objective is to provide benefits to each and every citizen of this country. We have to eradicate unemployment. If we want that we should not bother about the resentment of the people who will be made to retire on completion of their 20 years of service. I urge upon the Govt to accept my amendment.

The educated youth are somehow getting jobs or manage to earn money by doing some part time job. But think of the uneducated persons. They are no able to maintain their families. If you go to any construction site you will see the plight of the workers. The female workers leave the kids on the road sides and do the construction workes. They are low paid workers. They do not have the provision of maternity leave. So the pregnant female workers work till they deliver the babies. They deliver the babies on the pipes lying at the road side from this you can imagine their plight. So we have to think about these poor workers we should provide them job guarantee and security in their life. Therefore, it is necessary to bring forward a comprehensive Bill with suitable provisions for providing jobs to every

body with full security and guarantee. I do not think that the Bill moved by Shri Banatwalla is a comprehensive one. Because all the suggestion given by me do not find any place on the Bill. He has said about giving unemployment allowances to the unemployed persons. But this will create further unemployment. Because everybody will expect this allowance. They will not do any work or they will not go for any; Govt. or private job. Some State like West Bengal is giving Rs. 50/- or Rs. 100/- to the unemployed persons as unemployed allowance. Will they be able to maintain their families with this meagre amount? Any way I do not approve the idea of giving unemployment allowance as this is not a permanent solution to the unemployment problem. Therefore I hope that the hon. Members will realise the problem, I request the Minister to take more of the suggestions given by me. In the past our Govt. have taken several steps to remove unemployment problems. I hope attention will be paid to make a proper and well thought planning to solve this grave problem. But before the Centre takes steps in this direction the State Govts should bring forward some legislations in consultation with the Centre. The Central Govt can only take policy decision in this regard. Because in the past the Govt. of India had taken policy decision to implement land refer measures and abolition of Zamindari etc. Later on, the State Govts brought forward legislations to implement those measures. Therefore, the Govt. of India should take a policy decision in this direction and State Govts. should take necessary steps to bring forward legislations to eradicate unemployment problem I request the Govt of India to send some guidelines to the States in this connection.

Lastly, I express my happiness over the fruitful discussion that took place on this House on very grave problem of the country. I hope this discussion will have a far reaching impart on the Central Govt as well as the State Govts I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on this Bill and with these words I conclude my speech.

[English]

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS (Mavelikara):  
Sir, I congratulate Shri Banatwalla for bringing forward this Bill. This Bill brings out the responsibility of the Government towards the unemployed and emphasises that the Government should find employment for it people. My own State, Kerala has experimented with something of this sort and we have a scheme for paying unemployment dole to persons who do not have any job. I think Shri Banatwalla has gained some inspiration from this scheme of the Government of Kerala.

Surely Sir, this Bill points out to the responsibility of the Government towards unemployed persons. It is Government's responsibility to see that people are employed and that they are having some means of livelihood.

As far as the problem of unemployment is concerned, we all know the present situation in the country. The 'Economic Survey' which has been presented in the House some time back shows that there are 30.7 million unemployed persons registered in the Employment Exchanges. We may well imagine its dimensions. Government is not able to check the growth of unemployment. There is no correlation between the employment generated and the rate at which unemployment is growing day by day in the country. The rate at which employment opportunities are being provided to the people is much less than the rate at which our population is increasing. Therefore, all our planning, all our policies and schemes bring out the fact very clearly that the Government have no programme to see that more and more employment opportunities are created.

The only way out for a country which believes in socialism is to give unemployment dole to its people, it it cannot provide jobs to them. Shri Banatwalla has very categorically stated in his Bill that the unemployment dole should be given to the people who are unemployed as a subsistence means or allowance. If it is not possible to do so,



[Sh. Thampan Thomas]

there should at least be some sort of insurance scheme so that the insurance would support them. In Maharashtra the employment guarantee scheme was introduced and to a certain extent, it could achieve some good results in the matter of providing employment to those people who are without work. Of course, there are this type of schemes which help a small section or a few people in getting jobs but these really do not even touch the periphery of the problem with which our country is faced today. Therefore, the only way out for Government is to generate confidence in the poor and unemployed people. This can be done only by providing employment. Government is bound to give employment to its people and if it is not possible for the Government to provide jobs for all, then some payment or dole should be given.

In this regard, I would like to point out to one important aspect. Our country is not really poor. Our country is rich, but our people are poor. And our people are poor because of the fallacies of our policies. The money which is available in this country is not circulated. The total wealth which is in circulation in this country is less than 20 per cent and the remaining 80 per cent is still hidden. If the Government brings out that money and put, it for generating productive apparatus or for productive purposes, then, naturally employment can be generated for the people. So, the Government has to commit itself in that regard and take the responsibility in providing employment. So, if the Government takes up the responsibility to see that the 80 per cent of the money which is still kept by a section of the people, if it is brought out and employment is generated, the social system itself will change. Due to insecurity of employment, the people are compelled to amass wealth and the tendency to amass wealth is increased in their minds.

So by way of other means, he amasses money and keeps it idle, thinking that his son or daughter or grand-daughter or his next generation may come and they can enjoy the fruits. That is what, he is saying. This is one of the major problems of our

country. How can this be put to an end? This can only be faced in a manner, when the Government says that, there is a responsibility for the people who are having something and that responsibility should go to the poor people who are unemployed. If it is done, then only the wealth will come in their way. If the Government is committed to this and is bound to pay the unemployment doles and that too at the expense of the persons who are keeping this wealth idle, then only it can be solved.

So, I congratulate Mr. Banatwalla for saying that, unless the Government brings out or pumps out the money which is kept idle or the wealth which is kept idle, it would be the responsibility of the Government to provide more job opportunities. By means of this, our per capita income, our total outlook of life or the total way of life will be changed. Therefore, I wholeheartedly support Mr. Banatwalla's Bill and also in continuation to that, I would like to say that, not only this Bill, but a Constitution (Amendment) Bill is also necessary, which the Government should now think. Now they should make Amendment in Article 19 or the fundamental rights which are guaranteed in our Constitution. There, we will have to provide for Right to Employment. It should be made as a Fundamental Right for a person, who is living in India. So, a citizen has got a right to get employment. If he is not given employment, then he should have a right to live. If right to employment is included as a fundamental right, naturally, under the Constitution, he is safe. For his safety, the Constitution itself will provide something. He will have the right to live.

What is the content of this Bill? The content of this Bill is to have a right to live. So, are you going to give him a right to live? That is the question.

There is a saying that "the sin which is committed by a citizen in India is that he is born in India". He is not responsible for that sin. Somebody else is responsible for that sin. Will the Government permit them to live in turn, for the sin committed by

sombody else? If a man is born, you give him a right to live. For the purpose of having a right to live, you give him employment and other facilities by which he can live.

I once again congratulate him for bringing forward this Bill. Thank you, very much.

[*Translation* ]

SHRIMATI USHA CHOUDHARI (Amravati): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I heartly welcome the Eradication of Unemployment Bill brought by hon. Shri Banatwala for discussion in the House. The problem of unemployment particularly among educated youths and the problem of disparity in income are still continuing even after so many years of independence although the Government has taken various steps time and again to solve these problems. I think it is high time we discussed these issues. I know that when a Private Member's Bill is under discussion, different suggestions are made. Passing or non-passing of a Bill is a different matter. Our Government is trying to eradicate the problem through the 20 Point Programme. The ceiling laws have been passed for the removal of poverty and unemployment by this Government. The same Government under the leadership of our late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi had nationalised the banks and it was a radical step in the economic field. I think that such Bills are brought to give support to such thinking again. Such Bills strengthen the views of the Government and help it with suggestions and amendments. They also assist at the time of the formulation of the basic outline of an economic policy and also in its implementation. The Bill brought by hon. Shri Banatwals will be successful in this direction and will keep on providing necessary support in doing some work in this direction.

I do not want to repeat the suggestions given by the hon. Members in regard to the Bill. They have mainly stated that our cities are getting overcrowded on account of unemployment and the population in the

rural areas is decreasing. If the disparities would have been on account of political reasons then it could have been understood but the present miserable condition of the rural masses is on account of division of property and the increasing number of family members having state to it. All this has led to pitiable condition of the farmers and labourers. They do not have any other financial means or assistance with which they may be able to do some side business.

As regards education, the new Education Policy initiated by our Hon. Prime Minister is a step in the right direction. Changes have been brought at the national level in regard to education. We had observed that in addition to agriculture, education is the only way to provide them employment. It is with the help of education that they could have got alternative employment. But what we see in the rural areas is that though the children get some education but they cannot continue their higher studies and a large percentage of dropouts exist, particularly in the villages and backward areas. A survey was conducted 2 years ago of the Adivasi areas. In the field of higher education, 2 seats remain reserved for Adivasis for education in engineering and medicine but they are unable to reach there because of dropping out in between. The result is that they cannot get service even after completing their education. Children cannot come up for setting up industries. That is why the problem of unemployment has become acute in the backward areas and in villages. The Government has launched a number of scheme for the educated unemployed through the 20 Point Programme alongwith different Government schemes to solve this problem. This programme was started by Shrimati Indira Gandhi. The unemployed youths get employment in the small; scale industries. I would like to give some suggestions in this regard. There is need to provide vocational education and training for small scale industries in the villages. The farmers ask that the Government has imposed land ceiling in their case but nothing has been done to impose urban ceiling and to check the tendency of amassing urban property.

[Smt. Usha Choudhari]

Besides this, there are instances where on the one hand as many as ten members of one family are in service and on the other hand, the children of the poor cannot pursue their education and join some training course to improve their condition. Banks have been nationalised and a new scheme has been launched for the educated unemployed but if some one wants to set up an industry, he faces difficulties in getting licence, electricity connection etc. There are touts and corrupt people every where and due to them the benefits of schemes do not reach those people for whom the schemes have been formulated. Therefore, I would submit that the Government may bring forward some law so as to provide a job to at least one member of every family. This will ensure more jobs to the people. It is true that everyone has got freedom to do as he likes but some revolutionary step should be taken to put a check on the earning of a man. The Government as well as the Ministry should think over it. This is the feeling which I would like to express here.

Besides this, I have a suggestion. The Government of India has launched a self employment scheme. I represent Vidarbha region which is predominantly a tribal area. As a representative of the people, I carried out a survey of Amravati division. Under the self employment schemes, we provide loans for setting up industries, for certain services and business but we all, including MPs, know that the persons engaged in some occupations in cities have taken maximum benefit from it and the backward people could get little benefit from it. A son of a shopkeeper manages to open a separate shop under some different name and one who has nothing, fails to get any advantage from it. The scheme is praiseworthy and the Government is also making efforts in this direction but there is no enlightenment among the people in that area. At the same time there is no publicity of this facility. The people are also not being educated in this regard also. I would not like to give details here but after conducting survey of the four districts this fact has emerged that unless we provide

loan to the farmers for farming, this schemes cannot be implemented fully. We told them about this scheme and asked the educated unemployed to avail of it. They told us that they do not get raw material. They do not know which industries should be set up for which market will be available easily. They have to apply for different kinds of licences. This is happening in my area. Therefore, I know that they are not able to utilise the finances which the Central Government provides. We want that the Government should make arrangement for providing loans under this scheme for agriculture, small industries based on agriculture, for irrigation and for buying sprinkle machines etc. Under the scheme launched by the Government for the educated unemployed, maximum percentage of the tribals should be provided raw materials and we should finance them for setting up industries. We should provide resources to the farmers for purchasing sprinkle machines and for the development of technology so that their production may increase and the youths may resist the temptation of migrating to cities. We should make provision for cottage industries in the villages for the children of farmers, labourers, tribals and women.

Number of people are going abroad, especially from the South. This we have seen at Cochin and Madras Airports. It is not that they go there because they get more salary there. They go abroad because they get more facilities there. People go abroad not only from South but from the whole country. Their family members bid them farewell with tearful eyes. They do not want that their children should go abroad but they go abroad on their own or through some agents for the sake of earning their livelihood. We should check this tendency.

I whole heartedly welcome the Bill which has been brought forward in the House. There is no problem in the society which can be solved by any Ministry single handedly. The different social problems are connected with every Ministry. Therefore, all the departments of the Central Government should take the State Governments along with them to

work collectively for the removal of the unemployment. It is essential to take the help of everyone in this connection.

— The Maharashtra Government has launched a programme namely Employment Guarantee Scheme in the area which I represent. It is a good scheme. Such schemes should be launched in all the States. The hon. Members sitting here can take up the matter with their respective State Governments. Other States can also follow Maharashtra in formulating employment scheme and should take benefits which are available to them from Central Government. Although the problem of unemployment cannot be solved completely but we can provide facilities to the youth and unemployed so that they may be able to earn their livelihood. With these words, I conclude.

SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI (Simla): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I convey my congratulations to Shri Banatwals for bringing forward such a good Bill in the House. The important thing is to see as to what measures should be taken to provide jobs to the unemployed in the country.

You will find that the Government at the Centre has taken a number of measures due to which unemployment has been reduced to some extent. It is correct that we have not been able to solve the problem of unemployment to the extent we would have liked but the Government has made full efforts to solve this problem. As a result therefore, the educated boys and girls have got employment. Our Government has taken a decision to provide land to the landless agriculture labourers. The former Prime Minister late Shrimati Indira Gandhi had distributed land to the landless farmers and made them the owners of land. Due to this also a good number of persons could get employment.

Education has great importance in the removal of unemployment. Some boys and girls who are uneducated and unemployed commit suicide because their parents cannot maintain them. They should be given vocational education because they have not been benefited by the general education

uptil now. I would suggest that every State should be made responsible for providing vocational training to the boys and girls. Under the new education system stress has been laid on making them learn some occupation while pursuing their studies so that after finishing education, they may not have to go on seeking jobs and they may be able to stand on their own feet. People with good means educate their children in public schools and take advantage of it. That is why boys educated in the public schools are holding all the good posts like the ones in I.A.S., bank etc. The situation in villages is such that teachers are not available in schools. You will not find a single boy in the village who has studied science. In the hilly areas like Himachal Pradesh, Tehri Garhwal or Nagaland, boys and girls receive education in the schools run by Missionaries. That is why they are able to speak English fluently. Our teachers gave no dedication. They agitate for increase in their salaries but their performance is very poor. If you see the results of all Education Boards, you will find that their results never go beyond 50 per cent. That is why the students in villages fail in the examination. If 20 students take the examination of matriculation, only 5 to 6 students pass. The teachers help the students in copying. Where examiners do not go for checking, cent per cent students pass the examinations. The standard of education in villages is poor. The students do not even have 'tat-patti' to sit. When I and some Members of a Committee went to Ranchi during a visit of Bihar, we asked a teacher what he was teaching. He said that he was teaching well in accordance with the education system. When I asked who was the Education Minister of India, he pleaded his ignorance. When a teacher replies in such a way, what will be the performance of the students? When the candidates have to come to Delhi to appear in some interview, all their time is wasted in locating centre for interview. The condition of the candidates from the villages is even worse. By the time they reach their centre, the interview is already over. The employment exchange sends the names of at least 40 to 50 candidate for single post. The candidates

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from villages get disappointed because not even a single candidate among them gets selected. Such type of excesses should come to an end. The same situation prevails in the cities as well. The poor and those residing in jhuggi-jhoupries are meted out the same treatment. I would request the Government to pay attention in this direction so that the poor children may also get an opportunity to make their career bright. A person who sets up an industry insist on recruiting technical hands. He does not recruit persons who have been recommended by any M.P., M.L.A. or a Minister. We are meant only for laying foundation stones and inaugurations. Therefore, we will have to make a rule. If a factory is set up in Madhya Pradesh, employment should be given to the local candidates. This should happen in every State. But actually what happens is totally opposite. These people take loan from the Government and later on declare their industry sick. They put blame of this mismanagement on us. The Government will have to take it seriously. If we do not take it seriously, the lava simmering in the hearts of the unemployed youth can burst at any moment and vitiate the atmosphere of the society.

Whenever licence is issued for setting up an industry, it should be ensured that local people are given job there. We find that some workers are regular while some are temporary. The regular workers get full wages equal to the wages of three temporary workers whether they work or not but the plight of temporary workers is pitiable. The workers in the Government of India and the public undertakings are not regularised. This is exploitation of them. Our treatment with them is not proper. The Government should make them regular so that they may get a chance to rise in life and their children may also get regular service later on. Under the new education system, Government is opening Nā'odaya Schools but in my opinion such schools will be able to deliver goods only to some extent. You should see that bungling does not take place in these schools. Our Prime Minister has said that the poor and talented students should get full opportunity to pursue their

education. You should see that there are men of integrity in the selection boards. I would suggest that where such a school is opened, the M.P. of that area should be included in the committee so that he may see whether children of the poor are being given admission in that school or not or whether children of the tax payers are being given preference in the admission in that school. They say to the poor people not to send their children in these schools. They, in collusion with the head of the village, get certificate for themselves and the magistrate in the city gives them certificate of low income and these people get their children admitted in those schools whereas a poor man cannot get his child admitted in that school which has been opened for people like him. Our Government understands this, and law also exists, that the poor should be given an opportunity to rise. Therefore, it is essential to take action in the matter.

A number of factory owners have set up textile mills. This has affected the work of weavers. We do not say that factories should not be set up but at the same time you should see that due to this, weavers do not face unemployment. You should take care of the education of their children so that they may prove useful to the society when they grow up.

Reference has been made to the population of cities. It has also been said that due to the distribution of surplus land in the villages a number of persons have become rich. A farmer or a labourer who works hard in the field does not get remunerative prices of his produce. How then his economic condition can improve? Whereas we have distributed land among the people of the villages and have made an effort to raise the standard of the poor, we should see towards the cities also where people have become owners of 10 storeyed high buildings and call themselves 'merssiahs' of the poor. They say that only they can remove the poverty. But I would like to say that they pretend to be poor otherwise they are affluent. They have got good education. Their children study in public schools but still they pose as if they are poor. Therefore, the Government will

have to give attention in this direction. A sense of dedication will have to be instilled in them. By dedication we do not mean that we want to deal with them with a heavy hand. We want to create a feeling of dedication among them because they are not actually poor. They have big houses and they are getting huge rents but even then they pretend to be poor. I would request the hon. Minister to consider about such people with utmost vigilance. They have advanced in every field. We will have to give more attention towards the poor of the villages so that they may come equal to other sections of the society and may bring improvement in their standard of life. They may also be able to construct a small house for themselves. They have been living in rented houses for a long time. The hon. Members sitting in the Opposition go even to the courts in the name of the poor but no body pays attention to the plight of the poor who live in the villages. Although Shri Banatwala does not fight their cases in the court but a number of Members from the Opposition fight their cases in the courts. Therefore, you will have to give special attention towards it.

Now I would like to say a few words in regard to the Tribals and Harijans. They have been granted some rights under Article 338 of the constitution. They have reservation quota in the jobs. There is a provision of 15 per cent and 7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> per cent reservation in service for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes respectively but we should not forget that the population of these communities has increased tremendously since the time this percentage was fixed. If we go through the list of unemployed persons, their number will be the maximum. When these people attend any interview, they are sent back with the remarks that their body measurement does not meet the requirement or such other irrelevant remarks are given though they are quite eligible from educational qualifications point of view. Some persons are told that they do not know how to sit. But if we do not teach them how to sit and such other things, it is not possible to expect from them to learn everything within a day or two, because they have

remained backward for centuries. There are no two opinions that Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, all of our leaders have helped the poor. At present, Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi has also been helping the poor and he has made the announcement on a number of platforms that he will continue to do so. In spite of that I would like to say that these people are not taken against the reserved seats meant for them in every field and backlog exists everywhere. You may take the case of any department be it a public undertaking, police or any other department. It is my submission to you that you may please issue suitable orders so that the backlog which is being carried on for the last 40 years is cleared within next 6 months. This will help in removing the feeling of increasing disappointment among these people and will also make them understand that they are also being taken care of in the development of the country and that they will not be deprived of the rights conferred on them by the Constitution. This can be done by the Central Government, by the officers here, by enacting a law or by issuing necessary directions. A provision may also be made that if anybody is found violating these orders, strict disciplinary action will be taken against him. Then only there will be an improvement in this situation. Otherwise a handful of persons will continue to avail of all these benefits and the rural people will continue to remain backward and deprived of those benefits which the Government wants to give them to remove their poverty and to take them ahead. 20-Point Programme has also been a matter of discussion here. Some of our Hon. Members also make irresponsible charges here. The purpose of this Programme is to raise the standard of living of the poor to lead them ahead on the path of development, but some of the states, under the cover of this programme, give money to such people who otherwise should not get it. For example, animal husbandry is the job of a person who does farming. But I have seen that in West Bengal those people who do not own farming land have also been granted this assistance. This is not being done in any particular state. It is in

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practice in a number of states. Some people are given machines about which they have little knowledge. Some people are given money for irrigational facilities, but they do not have any land. In this way wrong things are being done in many places and wrong figures are being furnished about people rising above poverty line. We will have to investigate into it and make arrangements that right persons get the assistance under 20-Point Programme and the entire work runs smoothly. Until and unless this is done, we will not be able to take the poor people forward and remove unemployment from the country. Those people who do farming, should get full assistance in carrying our farming. So far as the question of employment is concerned, if a family consists of 8 to 10 members, it has got the right to choose any profession as per the rights conferred by the Constitution. They can take up service, set up an industry and do any other type of job. Someone may like to become an I.A.S or P.C.S officer. Otherwise, that way the work is being carried on, it will bring bad name for the Government and the poor are also not going to be benefited. Whatever party may come to power, it none is going to be benefited. If a handful of persons continue to avail of the facilities provided by the Government, only they will be able to set up industries and build houses and other buildings, in Delhi, Bombay, Madras, Calcutta or wherever they get sites. If these things continue then none of our plans will be success and we will never be successful in our objectives. It is, therefore, necessary to conduct raids on big industrialists and big smugglers so that the unemployed people come to know that our Government is taking suitable steps for them. Prof. Ranga is sitting here. He is making lots of efforts. Shri Rajiv Gandhi is also making lots of efforts but all M.Ps will have to make this sort of efforts. It should not be so that petrol pump dealership is given to a person who owns shops as well as trucks. This should not happen. You have said that it will be decided by a retired Judge. It is possible that he may decide in advance that a particular person is to get petrol pump dealership; he will say that he does not know if that person runs any other

business. Hon. Members are sitting here. Some hon. Member recommended somebody's name and got the petrol pump dealership allotted to him. I am not against any particular person. But we come here after having been elected by 10 lakh people and it is our duty to look into these things. Nothing should be done without our knowledge. It should also not happen that we do the work and credit goes to somebody else. What I want to say is that these things should be taken care of. There may be a number of M.Ps who might be owing 4 cars but there are also M.Ps who do not own a single car, they go on foot. An hon. M.P. gets salary equivalent to that of a peon. On the other hand there are M.Ps who are big personalities and take Rs.25,000 as fees to argue a case in the Supreme Court. Persons conducting raids do not conduct raids on them. Raids are conducted on Government employees and small shop-keepers.

Mr. Chairman, Sir. I belong to Himachal Pradesh. There are large number of unemployed boys and girls in my area, Shimla. They do not get jobs in Air-India and other big companies. Only local people get employment in these companies. The people from Himachal Pradesh are recruited only in Army. It is, therefore, my submission that those people who can get employment elsewhere should not be recruited in the Army. Only those people may be recruited in it who are not likely to get employment elsewhere and who are not engaged in any other profession. I also demand from my Government that programmes be chalked out in a planned manner to provide employment to unemployed persons as has also been stated in this proposal that there is a need to make all out efforts to remove their unemployment. Our Government should provide employment to those people whom it is in a position to provide. Therefore, I welcome this Bill. The hon. Minister belongs to hilly area and he must be listening to me. He will implement my proposal in the hill areas and will make all out efforts to reduce un-employment there. With these words I hope that Shri Banatwala will withdraw his Motion.

\*SHRI R. ANNANAMBI (Pollachi):  
Hon. Chairman Sir, I am thankful to you for providing me an opportunity to speak on behalf of the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam on the Eradication of Unemployment Bill, 1987 moved by Shri G.M. Banatwalla.

I am pained to note, Sir, that even after 40 years of independence and 7 five-year plans, we are not able to control our population which has exceeded 80 crores. Our population is growing very fast, though, we have failed to achieve such progress on the economic and industrial fronts.

Nearly 45% of the people are living below poverty line just because they do not have employment. In many families, parents sell away their fortunes including their ancestral homes and lands to educate their wards so that after their education they would get some good employment. The parents hope that their children, after education would, earn handful amounts and redeem the property sold for the cause of their education. But, after receiving education, the educated remain unemployed for long. They register their names with the employment exchanges and wait in vain every day, but months and years roll by. This is the pathetic condition of the educated unemployed in India.

In certain families, parents educate their daughters with the sole objective that they would get a decent job after education and earn to meet the expenses on their marriage. Since the educated females do not get a job for a long time, we have in India, a pathetic situation of women being unmarried till 25 to 30 or 35 years.

The Central Govt. must, therefore, evolve a plan by which the educated youths are guaranteed an employment. Till such time, they get an employment, they must be provided with a reasonable allowance. The Govt. must, with this in view, constitute a Fund.

The Tamil Nadu Govt. comes first in providing unemployment allowance to educated unemployed. I am glad to inform this august House that the Tamil Nadu Govt. under Dr. MGR is providing Rs. 75 as unemployment allowance to all those who are educated, unemployed and registered with the employment exchanges. The Central Govt. and the Hon. Minister here, must commend to the other State Govts. Tamil Nadu Govt's this noble scheme for eradication of unemployment.

The Govt. must take stringent measures to fight unemployment. Unemployment is an economic disease.

In India, Govt. is the major employer. But there are good amount of employment potential in private companies also. Private entrepreneurs obtain licence, monetary assistance and other concessions from the Govt. But, while filling vacancies in their companies, they flout national interests and recruit persons belonging to one caste, community and choose persons on parochial considerations. Regulations must be framed to compel these entrepreneurs to recruit personnel strictly through employment exchanges. Seniority and merit should be the sole considerations for selection. Nothing less than this will help to eradicate unemployment.

18.00 hrs.

Our late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi formulated many programmes in this direction. The crown among them is the self-employment scheme. Under this scheme, Banks are to provide loans to indigent educated unemployed. However, when unemployed graduates approach the Banks for loans for starting self-ventures, the Banks demand guarantee against the loans. Persons who do not have anything and strive hard to ske out a livelihood cannot provide guarantee for loans. I, therefore, suggest that such obstructionist procedures must go. A law must be made, as is before the House, so that these

\* The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.



[Sh. R. Annanambi]

unemployed youth do not suffer. They at least get some allowance to pull on their lives. The self-employment scheme must be made more successful so as to render true the dreams of our late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Anna Nambi, How many more minutes you want?

SHRI ANNANAMBI: What?

MR. CHAIRMAN: How many more minutes you want?

SHRI ANNANAMBI: I want 5 minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, No, not 5 minutes.

SHRI ANNANAMBI: I will finish within 3 minutes.

[Translation]

\*SHRI R. ANNANAMBI: Sir, only a law in this regard will help us to eradicate unemployment and thus help economic development.

I would also like to mention certain other points and conclude.

Since the poor unemployed are not able to provide guarantee against loans by Banks under the self-employment scheme, I request that loans may be provided to this needy youth on production of certificates from Members of Parliament and State Legislatures to the effect that the loanees have good character and that they would repay the loan without fail.

Further, we must pay our attention to the establishment of industries. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Light of Asis, was the founding father of our industry. It was rightly followed by Shrimati Gandhi and thereafter, we are not paying the requisite attention in this regard. I, at this juncture, request the Central Govt. to accord sanction to pending requests of Tamil Nadu Govt. for starting industries in that State.

With this, I conclude.

18.01 hrs.

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL\*\*

[English]

(Insertion of New Article 16A)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Harish Rawat, you were not present at the time when you were called for introduction of the Bill. Anyway I am allowing as a special case because you have requested for it.

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Constitution of India."

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI HARISH RAWAT: I introduce the Bill.

18.02 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, April 27, 1987/Vaisakha 7, 1909 (Saka).*

\* Speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

\*\* Published in Gazette of India Extra ordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 24.4.1987.