

had been in Public Service Commission, I observed in one case where an employee was eligible for promotion in accordance with the rules after completing five years substantive service. But this duration was enhanced to seven years in order to deprive the scheduled caste candidates of their promotion. I was told that in one case 23 vacancies were to be filled with scheduled caste candidates which ultimately reduced to only three due to the enhancement of provision of period of substantive service from five to seven years. In the circumstances when prejudices play the major role in the selection, promotion and in character roll entry in respect of scheduled caste and scheduled tribe candidates, you should consider whether reservation is necessary or not? A person can expect justice from an officer incharge of the selection process, if he happens to be honest. But what is the alternative when corruption and injustice is rampant at the initial stages itself. What can one hope when the judge or an officer incharge of selection himself is corrupt. Why was this system adopted? Constitution makers were aware of the fact there will be partiality and corruption and thus some sort of compulsion was necessary to be introduced. Some people are of the opinion that the feelings of other people are hurt in this manner. 25 per cent of the total population comprises of scheduled castes while the provision of reservation is just for 15 per cent. We want our right on the basis of our population. We will not tolerate any corruption in this regard. The Government does not try to understand the repercussions...*(Interruptions)*...Let them hear. They are the real listeners.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You may continue next time. Now we go to next item, Half-an-Hour Discussion.

[Translation]

SHRI VIR SEN : Sir, I wouldn't let the bell ring, it's wrong. I have not yet mentioned my main point. *(Interruptions)*

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : You would continue next week.

SHRI VIR SEN : It is just 5.30 P. M. and this discussion is to go upto 6.00 P. M.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, we go to next item, Half-an-Hour Discussion.

Kum. Mamata Banerjee.

*(Interruptions)*

17.35 hrs

HALF—AN—HOUR DISCUSSIONS

[English]

Problem of Unemployment

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE (Jadavpur) : I am grateful to Hon. Speaker because he is kind enough to allow this discussion.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : Not to me!

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I am coming to say that. I am also grateful to the hon. Minister because he accepted our Demands.

Unemployment problem is one of the chronic problems of our country and our country is facing very crucial times from the unemployment point of view.

I would like to congratulate our Prime Minister because in the AICC Session he has given a call for 'Bekari Hatao'. I welcome this slogan.

But I would like to suggest to the hon. Minister that this slogan should not remain a slogan. We want proper implementation so that our country can get proper results through this slogan.

It is said that due to problems of population growth, sick industrial units, closed industries and so many other

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

problems, we are facing this problem. There is no doubt about it.

It is also said that our scope of employment is very poor.

I think this is not a partisan matter. So, from this side or that side, everybody is facing this problem.

That is why, I request the hon. Minister to appoint a National Commission to review the whole situation and to find out some way so that some constructive measures can be taken through the decision of the National Commission.

It is said that our scope of employment is very poor. Government has provided something to the rural poor through the 20-Point Programmes like IRDP, NREP, RLEGP and DRDA. I welcome these programmes. But it is not enough for our country to solve unemployment problem through only these few schemes.

If you go through the figures, you will feel unhappy about what is going on in our country.

Year	No. of job-seekers on the live registers.
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Lakhs.

1980	162
1981	178.4
1982	197.5
1983	219.5
1984	235.5
1985	262.7
1986	301.31
1987	305.31

This is the position.

If you go through the data, you will see how the unemployment among youth

is increasing day by day. I would like to draw your kind attention to the figures of the number of registrations made, vacancies notified and placements effected by the Employment Exchanges during the year, 1987.

It is mentioned that in Andhra Pradesh, registrations were 451.6 lakhs. Vacancies notified were 55.7—all these figures are in thousands—but placement was only 20.6. I am not giving you all the details. Only, I will mention about some States. In Assam, the registrations were 155.7 and the vacancies notified were 12.9. But the placement was only 5.5. In my State of Bengal, the registrations were 454.1; vacancies notified were 25.4 but the placement was only 10.1. But in Delhi, the vacancies notified were 31.4 and the placement was 45.5. Sir, the people of Delhi are really lucky. I am not jealous of the people of Delhi. I am really very happy to see that their notified vacancies were 31.4 but they have got placement to the extent of 45.5. It is above all the States. I am not jealous of Delhi. I am telling this because in every State, the notified vacancy is something and the placement is something. The placement is very poor. When Government declares this vacancy, there is also some backlog. They are not going to fulfil this quota also. But I can tell you one thing that it is not possible for the Government to sort out the unemployment problem altogether. It is a fact.

Secondly, the age-ceiling of 25 years to enter the Government of India service is absolutely unrealistic. Why I am saying this is that when the youths complete graduation, they attain the age of 18 or 20 years. After that, only 5 or 7 years are left to get employment. The age-ceiling fixed for entering the Central Government service is 25 years. I think, it is the duty and responsibility of the Government to provide job or to give self-employment scheme to the unemployed youths in order to at least make them earn their livelihood. But, you will be surprised to note that the age-ceiling fixed for Central Government employment is 25 years. They have given some notified vacancies. But they will not even fulfil this target. Where will

the youths go ? I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister that when the unemployed youths register their names in the Employment Exchanges, they should be provided with job. Either you provide them job or give them self-employment opportunities through banks. They can be trained on these lines so that they get some opportunity to earn their livelihood. They can get money from the banks. They can establish themselves through self-employment schemes. But, as I have already pointed out, as per the present age-ceiling of the Central Government, the youths are left with only 7 or 5 years after they complete graduation. It is difficult to get job within this period. Who is to be blamed for this ? They are not guilty for this. They are the citizens of this country. So, the Government is responsible to provide them jobs. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to kindly increase the age-ceiling from 25 years to 35 years. Why I am telling this is because after 25 years of age, there is no scope for the youths to get employment. Where will the youths go ? Sir, you know that there are 2 lakh unemployed people from the Public Sector. So many industries have been closed. Thousands and thousands of workers are unemployed. There are two crores and odd unemployed poor youths in the country. This information is according to the Employment Exchanges. I do not know what is the number as far as the unorganised sector is concerned. That is why I am telling that in order to protect the interests of the unemployed youths, the Government has to raise the age-ceiling from 25 years to 35 years so that the youths will get atleast sometime to get employment.

Sir, there are also some discrepancies, as far as the age-ceiling is concerned. In some States, they are having the ceiling of 35 years of age. Whereas in some other States, they are having the age-ceiling of 30 years. Therefore, I would like to ask as to why there is difference of opinion as far as this question is concerned. There should be some same uniform policy adopted by both the Central Government and the State Governments so that the youths can get into the Government service.

Another point is Postal Order fees. It is a burden on the unemployed youth. Whenever a qualified youth is to apply for a job, he has to pay Postal Order of at least Rs. 25. Where will the poor youth get the money from to buy the Postal Order ? Government has already discontinued charging Postal Order fees from Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe people, I welcome this. But at the same time I would request the hon. Minister to think over this matter and stop charging Postal Order fees from the unemployed youth who apply for jobs. I think, by this, the unemployed youth will at least get a chance to apply for a job. So many unemployed youth are coming to us because we are public representatives and they say, "This Postal Order is a big burden on us; you are not providing us jobs, you are not giving us any scope; let us at least apply for a job". So, it is our moral duty. That is why I am requesting the hon. Minister to think over this matter seriously.

I would also like to point out what is happening in some Employment Exchanges. In fact, there should be a Commission of Inquiry to look into the working of the Employment Exchanges and their role in employment promotion and also to provide for remedial measures. Why I am saying this is because, in our country so many Employment Exchanges are there, at least 150 are there and some people are involved in corruption. When unemployed youth go to meet them for call-letters, these people take some money before giving the call-letters according to their choice. They are not going according to rules. That is why I am requesting the hon. Minister to set up a Commission of Inquiry to find out the real thing, to find out what is going on in the country.

It is a fact that in my State the unemployment problem is a crucial problem; 70 per cent of the unemployed youth are in my State; the percentage is much higher than in any other State. I know, it is not possible for the Government to provide employment to all the people. But you should set up some new industries there; you give more importance to small scale industries; in the rural

[Kumari Mamata Banerjee]

sector you can set up agro-based industries and in the urban sector, you can set up new industries. I know, you are trying to modernise factories. I welcome this. But the unemployed youth are increasing day by day. In the name of modernisation, you are going to retrench so many workers. Where will these poor workers go? You have to train them. Before you modernise any factory, you must train the workers there, so that they are absorbed there itself after training. Otherwise, where will these workers, after retrenchment, go? That is why I am requesting the hon. Minister to train the workers before any modernisation is done, so that they can be provided alternative jobs.

In our country you should start some training centres where unemployed youth can be trained so that they can establish their own industries and stand on their own feet.

I am now giving some suggestions. One is work-oriented educational system. The second is avoidance of overtime work as a regular feature. We have seen that, due to overtime work, some people are earning more but new people are not coming in; that is why, there should be some restriction on overtime work. Another suggestion is establishment of National Power Grid; this will also help. Then, linking major rivers in the country and providing a network of canal system both for irrigation and, wherever possible, for inland transport. Provision of a network of pucca roads so that no village is left without a road connection. Embarking upon a massive programme of urban and rural housing. Encouraging small scale industries. If you try to implement all these things, I think, one day our country may solve this unemployment problem. Otherwise, if you do not take proper action, if you do not take up proper projects, then 'Bekari Hatao' will only remain as a slogan. This slogan will remain only a 'Bekari Hatao' slogan and the opposition will be happy if we are not able to implement this slogan. That is why, I request that Government should take steps immediately. I want to the Hon. Minister that the Prime Minister has already given a call for 'Bekari

Hatao' slogan. But what steps Government is going to take to solve this problem and whether there is any time-bound programme to solve this problem. How are you going to implement this *Bekari Hatao* slogan? I believe that my Minister will be kind enough to reply to my question and he will consider something at least this age relaxation, withdrawal of postal order fees and to generate more employment for the unemployed youth. Otherwise these youths will go astray and some fissiparous forces will be happy to see it. That is why, I tell you to solve this problem as early as possible.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Sir, I am grateful to the Hon. Member for raising this issue of unemployment. Last time when this question came up during the Question Hour, this was the will of the whole House that this should be given more time.

I would like to inform the Hon. Member that this Government is completely committed to eradicating unemployment from this country. Every decision taken by the Government—may be the Cabinet or the Prime Minister—is to see that the unemployment is removed from this country. Even recently, in our party meeting in Madras, this slogan of *Bekari Hatao* was taken up. This was just not a slogan but this was a scheme, a plan of the Government where ultimately, we hope, by 2,000 we will be able to give job to every registered unemployed person.

First, I would like to go into the figures. According to the Seventh Plan Document, the backlog of usually unemployed people at the beginning of the Plan period, that is, March 1985 was of the order of 9.20 million in the age-group of five plus. That means, right from plus five including people have been working in the agriculture. This comprises 7.01 million males and 2.19 million females. The rate of unemployment, calculated as percentage of total labour forces is 3.04 per cent. that is, 3.20 per cent for males and 2.65 for females. Now the Seventh

Plan Document also estimated that the net additions to the labour force during the plan period 1985-90 would be of the order of 39.38 million. If you look at the figures which have been given by the employment exchange, at the end of 1987, there was a total of 30.25 million of job-seekers registered in the various employment exchanges. Now this need not imply that to all those who have been registered are unemployed, because we had a survey recently conducted in Trivandrum, Kerala in the year 1987 by the Department of Economics and Statistics, Kerala, in three employment exchanges. This was done in Trivandrum, Ernakulam and Palghat. 32 to 41 per cent of the job-seekers on the live registers were already in employment and another 9 to 24 per cent were either students or housewives or people who are too old to work. They just got themselves registered in the employment exchanges. This left with only 34 per cent to 59 per cent of the actual job-seekers who were unemployed in the registers of the employment exchanges. I think, all over the country this must be the pattern.

As per the saying that number of unemployed people is going up, there is no doubt about it because when population is going up, the unemployment will also go up. But Government is doing everything possible to see that unemployment goes away from the country. I would like to tell you that in the Seventh Five Year Plan the generation of productive employment was achieved through different development programmes under the 20 Point Programme and different employment-oriented schemes. Programmes like the self-employment scheme for the educated unemployed youth, Integrated rural development programme —IRDP—training of rural youth for self-employment —TRYSM—national rural employment programme—EREP—rural landless employment programme—NREP—rural landless employment guarantee programme, self-employment programme for the urban poor, etc., are there. All these schemes which were given by the Government are there to generate employment and this has benefited the people.

I would like to give you a little detail. The Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme was started in 1983 and its basic objective is to improve and expand the employment opportunities for rural landless with a view to providing guarantee of employment to at least one member of a family. This was the ultimate aim. I think the whole scheme is started 100% and I believe that ultimately a time will come when we would be able to fulfil our targets.

The second scheme for employment generation is the National Rural Employment Programme. This programme also was aimed at providing employment opportunities to rural workers, particularly during the lean period of the year when they are not able to find gainful employment. This also was aimed at creating durable community assets so that at the time of need this will create an infrastructure in the village level and will create jobs.

The third is the Integrated Rural Development Programme. This is the single largest programme for providing direct assistance to the rural poor and it is meant for the poorest of the poor in the country. This also is to provide productive asset to the poor enabling them to attain a higher income and better standard of living. The expenditure on this scheme is shared by the Centre on 50% basis.

The next is the Training for the Rural Youth for Self-Employment. This scheme was started in 1979. This was also for removing unemployment in rural youth. This scheme is also doing well.

There has not been a single scheme which has been started by the Government where you cannot say that the employment is not generated. No doubt, we have our problems: just like most of the problem you had mentioned—lock-outs, strikes, people going bankrupt, etc. Apart from them, there is increase in the population. Naturally when there is increase of population, the opportunity for people to ask for jobs also automatically grows.

[Shri Jadish Tytler]

We have also another big scheme which we started in 1983 for providing self-employment to educated unemployed, that is what you were referring to. I would like to inform you that this scheme extends to the whole of India and covers all the areas of the country excluding cities which have more than one million population as per 1981 census. We have got different norms. In this scheme the people who are eligible should have passed their matriculation of equivalent examination—i.e. 10th class—from the financial year 1986 onwards. ITI passed candidates should be within the age of 18 to 35 years and should be unemployed. The family income of the applicant from all sources should not exceed Rs. 10000 per annum. A composite loan not exceeding Rs. 35000 in respect of industrial venture, Rs. 25000 for service venture and Rs. 15000 for business trading venture is provided to the beneficiary under this scheme.

A capital subsidy equivalent to 25% of the assistance sanctioned is also available to the beneficiary. A minimum of 30% sanctions are reserved for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes. Mr. Vir Sen was speaking about this on a Bill just before this discussion started. Out of 30% that has been sanctioned for SC and ST, women and technically personnel are also given due consideration.

We have also another scheme—self-employment programme for urban poor. This scheme was also started in 1986. This is applicable to the cities which have population of more than 10000 and not covered by the integrated rural development programme. It has also been implemented in selected places.

18.00 hrs.

Sir, other than this the Government has identified areas all over the country where the employment can be generated. I have a long list of it. If the Members are interested I can place it on the Table of the House.

Now a very valued suggestion has come from Kumari Mamata Banerjee about raising the upper age limit for Government service. This has been examined many a time before and there are reasons why it cannot be done. If the older people are taken into service then they also need some time to gain experience in the job and that leaves a short span of service whereby Government will not be able to get full benefit of their service. This is one of the reasons. Age has also relevance to the time factor involved, prescribed qualifications and experience and the existing age-limits were prescribed after taking into account these factors. The raising of age-limit does not in any way increase the employment potential. Besides this the span of the competitive age will be very wide, that is, from 18 to 35 years thus creating a wide disparity in the quality and efficiency of those recruited belonging to the same batch. Further a person joining at a fairly advanced age will not be able to earn him full pension and may not, therefore, be a contented employee.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I request you take up this matter with the highest authorities.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I can assure you that this Government will make every effort to see that younger people are given more opportunities for jobs. I have already mentioned in the beginning this Government is committed to the younger generation.

Further Mamataji mentioned about charging of the examination fee. This has also been considered previously and there are certain things which I would like...

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : This age relaxation and postal order problems are the burning issues and I want you to consider these.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I will examine these but at present I would like to say that these are the reasons but in future we can examine it.

I would like to end my little comments

on the points raised that we are committed to see that as many jobs as possible are generated so that our younger boys who come up with aspirations and pass schools and colleges should have an opportunity to have a job.

**SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY** (Katwa) : It is an irony that just a little while ago you rejected a private members' Bill which sought to insert right to work as fundamental right into the Constitution. Now you come and claim that by 2000 AD you are going to provide employment to all those who will be there in the labour force. I wish you all success but past experience has shown us that all the measures that have been taken by the Government have failed. We have to go into the root of this failure. I do not have the time. It requires a big debate but the point is that if you refer to the National Sample Survey the data here says that the rate of growth of works on workers on usual status basis declined from 0.7 per cent in 1972-78 period to 1.3 per cent in 1978-84 period. On the basis of emerging trends, the total agricultural employment in the six major States they have referred to Punjab, Haryana, U.P., Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan—would decline. That would be the general feature in the agriculture also. Now this data shows that the growth rate of labour in the factory sector declined from 2.43 per cent in 1972-78 period to 2.23 per cent in 1978-84 period. The preliminary data for 1984-85 and 1985-86 shows the zero growth rate. There is also a decline in the growth rate of self-employment from 1.86 per cent in 1972-78 to 1.52 per cent in 1978-84 period. In all the sectors, that is, factory sector, agriculture sectors, self-employment sector, there have been failures. We all know that Factories are closing down. Why? More than one lakh factories have closed down and many are sick. We have a big market—more than 700 million. So, you understand the failure is in policy and politics. It is not that you give a slogan and that will be automatically implemented.

About the self-employment programme, you give some money—some thousands. Who will guarantee the market? Who

will guarantee the raw material? This is very important. Otherwise, the money will be wasted. Apart from all that, bureaucratic bungling and all those obstacles-red-tapism—are there. I am not going into all that. But the emphasis is that we have to increase the purchasing capacity. How we can say anything about that? The way things are going on, in the near future, the Ministry of Labour will be irrelevant no labour will be there. It seems to me so. They will be retrenched and there will be computer. In-between there will be nothing; may be the Minister. Anyway, this is a very important thing. Now sophistication in the economy is a very good thing Modernisation is a good thing. But modernisation for what? Is that to bring miseries to the labour force? Is that to take less labour in the production system? In our country, what is required? Till you do not do that, you will be facing failures. Nobody will seriously take your motives. Every body will question your integrity. You have to start from this point that you consider it as a right for the younger generation that they should get a job. Whether you are going to do that or not? That is very important.

(Interruptions)

**MR. CHAIRMAN** : You ask the question now.

**SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY** : You tell me, when are you sincerely going to achieve and realise the slogan 'Bekari Hatao'? Or, will it meet the same fate as that of *Garibi Hatao*?

**MR. CHAIRMAN** : The Minister may reply at the end. Now, Dr. Rajhans.

[Translation]

**DR. G. S. RAJHANS** (Jhanjarpur) : Mr. Speaker, sir, the problem of unemployment is very acute. One cannot understand its intensity while sitting in Delhi. In order to know the real facts, Government officials should visit rural and remote areas. 200 graduates in each Panchayat of my constituency are unemployed. One can imagine the actual position from these figures. Shri Tytler must be aware that the people of my

[Dr. G. S. Rajhans]

constituency have joined the people of his constituency.

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER** : Every body has been provided with job.

**DR. G. S. RAJHANS** : Not a single person has been employed 6 lakh people from my constituency and the adjoining areas constitute the population of Delhi, Gaziabad, Faridabad and Ballabgarh. It is an acute problem. You cannot laugh it away. People from distant areas come to Delhi in the hope of getting jobs but they roam about aimlessly without getting job. Has the Government ever paid attention towards this problem? What is the reason that people come for jobs from distant areas and are disappointed. The situation has become so critical that graduates and post-graduates from Bihar are forced to do the meanest job in Delhi. Therefore, Sir, this problem is very acute. You may take it lightly or explain lame excuses or say this is the luck of Bihar's.....

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER** : you should talk of entire youth community of the country and not that of Bihar only.

**DR. G.S. RAJHANS** : Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru had observed that so long people of even one country of the world starve or had a wretched life, there can be no everlasting peace in the developed countries or western countries. In the same manner I would like to emphasise the fact that so long basic needs of the people of Bihar are not met, the well to do people of Delhi will not be able to enjoy life. I submit this fact with utmost emphasis and responsibility. I am sorry to say that Shri Sangma always paid proper attention towards the issues raised by me during his tenure in this Ministry.

**SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER** : I shall also cooperate with you.

**DR. G. S. RAJHANS** : The most regrettable thing is that whenever a graduate from Bihar tries to get his name

registered in the Employment Exchange in Delhi, he is snubbed and told somenow or the other that his name cannot be registered. Should I expect from the hon. Minister that he will get the matter investigated. I hope that some treatment in being meted out to the young persons coming from other States also. The Government ought to formulate some integrated policy, because the problem is very acute. It might not directly related to the department of hon. Minister, but the Government has collective responsibility. Formost priority should be given to control population. A comprehensive policy should be made to achieve it. Unless stringent steps are taken in this regard, the unemployment problem cannot be solved. Secondly, education should be included in the Central list and only technical education should be imparted after matriculation or higher secondary. I would like to know whether the Government would adopt such an integrated approach or not?

In the end, I would like to point out that the number of sick industries in Bihar and West Bengal has been increasing manifold. About 40 thousand workers have become unemployed in Rohtas only. Same is the case with Ashok Mill and several other mills. Will the Government take some measures for rehabilitation of the workers who have become unemployed as a result of several industries becoming sick.

(English)

**SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA** (Vishnupur) : In his reply, the Minister has said a fast rate of growth of agriculture, combined with faster rate of growth of industry together with specific employment generation programmes would, it is expected, make possible the provision of jobs to all in the labour force by the year 2000. But Sir, what is the real picture? According to the ILO Report, five million educated youths will be without jobs by the end of the Seventh Five Year plan. This Seventh Five year plan will be ending in 1989. Within this one year, how can he provide jobs to five million people?



Already in the live register of employment exchanges, 3,013 crores people were registered in December 1986 against 2,627 crores at the end of December, 1985. This shows an increase of 38.61 lakhs in twelve months only. I do not know how the Government is going to tackle this problem. We must have a look at the real picture.

Here, it is said that we are going to have a fast rate of growth of agriculture. But what about land reforms? There are no land reforms. What about irrigation system? After forty years of independence, only 35 per cent of our land has come under irrigation. What about industries? More than 1.47 lakh small big and medium industries are lying closed.

Kumari Mamata Banerjee said that the problem of unemployment in west Bengal was acute. No doubt about it. In West Bengal we have been asking for clearance of Petro-Chemical complex. In reply to my question the other day, the Industries Minister said that everything had been cleared from the Central Government. But the next day, Shri Panja said that every thing had not been cleared, something was pending. Then, the Finance Minister, Shri Tiwari said that he did not know whether it had been cleared from the Central Government or not. This is the position. If this project comes up, one million people will get jobs. Various ancillary industries can be set up while it is a petro-chemical project and the hon. Minister is not concerned directly, but he is a Minister in the Central Government, I would request him to use his good offices to get it cleared.

**SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska):** Sir, the problem of unemployment should not be considered as confined only to those who have registered themselves with the employment exchanges. Just like the unorganized labour, which constitute ninety per cent of labour, stress has to be given on this aspect also as mentioned by the Prime Minister several times.

The hon. Minister has mentioned about the poverty eradication schemes like RLEGP, IRDP etc. and also the

loans given to the educated unemployed youths. But have we got any positive data on all these things? What is required is that we must have a data bank at the grassroot level beginning from the blocks, so that we know how many persons remained unemployed in each area of skilled and unskilled labourers, workers and also the graduates, engineers and doctors, that will be the correct assessment and how best we can give them employment, i.e. inside and outside the country. In the morning I have already stated about the migrant labours and how they are exploited at times. But I have got volumes of praise for the Labour Ministry and the officers who are in charge of this migration. They have done the best work. What is required in that area is that we must have man power corporations in the States, Union Territories and even at the Centre so that we will know who are the persons who should be given job and who are the persons who should be sent abroad and they may not be exploited. These are the measures necessary.

**SHRI SAIFFUDIN CHOWDHARY:** Those who cannot be given job should be sent abroad.

**SHRI SOMNATH RATH:** It is not only the question of getting the job, for the information of the Hon. Member we get foreign exchange to a great extent by sending persons abroad. In fact there is a competition in China and other countries for sending people abroad. So, what I want to say, and invite the attention of the Hon. Minister to, is that this data banks and the man power corporation is necessary. I would like to know what steps the Government is going to take to see that by the turn of century the unemployment will be eradicated as per the clarion call given by our beloved Prime Minister. Unfortunately, at the grassroot level, at the district or the State level the labour officers employees are not involved at the as far as the implementation of the poverty alleviation scheme is concerned. How many persons are benefited; whether right persons are given loans or it is given to the affluent persons; whether banks are interested to

[Shri Somnath Rath]

give loans to the poor people or to the pro-rich people, all these facts are not gone into at the block level because at the block level, the coordinating Committee, the labour department employees or the officers are not a party to it. So, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether he will take up the case in this matter with his colleagues in the Ministry and see that with regard to implementation of these different programme and really the poor persons and unemployed are benefited. This can be known better when the employees or the officers of the labour department at the grassroot level are involved. I want the Minister to look into this and reply what steps he is going to take.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : Sir, most of the things I had in my mind I have spoken in the initial reply. Mr. Chowdhary has asked about the right to work. This has already been thought before also because the whole planning in the Seventh Plan has been done where the right to work has been taken into account but till such time, we have the right facilities and the situation exists where we can promise right to work, I do not think country is in a condition in which it can become a reality. That is how it has not been taken.

SHRI SAIFFUDIN CHOWDHARY : The condition has to be created.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : In that way the whole thinking and the planning has been thought of. I would just like to go back to the figures which you have quoted. You have quoted the survey of 32 round of the NSS. But after that we have another round. The 32 round of NSS was in 1977-78 and after that we have 38 round which was conducted in 1983, and the situation is not that bad as that of 1977-78. I can have a little dig and say that was the Janta time but I do not want to go into that. I would just like to tell this thing. The employment position has improved because

in the public sector alone, if you take the figures from 1971 to 1986, employment has increased by 65 per cent. That does not mean that we are all very happy and doing nothing, thinking that that is the end of it. My point is that one cannot say that we have not made any progress. We are working towards it and in spite of the financial constraints and other problems all around the country such as the closure of the factories, etc. as has been mentioned by many hon. members, still there has been an increase of 65 per cent in the public sector itself. The overall employment in the organised sector has increased by 43 per cent between 1971 and 1986. Again that does not mean that the Government is very happy and is sitting down thinking that nothing more need be done. Every effort should be made to see that we increase the employment potential in the country as much as possible.

As far as Shri Saha's query is concerned, I cannot say anything about the Petro-chemicals complex. But I can certainly convey his sentiments to the Minister concerned. I can answer him only after that or the concerned Minister may directly reply to him.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : what about land reforms ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : That also does not come under my Ministry. I can say that it is something which we would like to implement.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : You have not replied to my query about employment exchanges.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I thought I replied. Employment exchanges come under the purview of the State Government. We too received certain complaints in this regard. The only thing I can assure you is that any problem or complaint regarding the working of my Ministry either directly or indirectly, will be looked into and remedied.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS : In future,

whoever comes to me for a job will be sent to you then.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : Now, I come to distribution of loans. The hon. member mentioned that at the block level, there is a pro-rich bias on the part of the banks. I would say that the banks are competent enough to see as to who should get the loans. As you all know, these are the maladies in our structure. There are people who are dishonest and who do not think as you do. Here again the general thinking of the people must change and a feeling among people must be inculcated that this money belongs to the poor people to better their lives. The guardians of a particular area such as government servants, social workers or political workers should see that the money

reaches the right persons.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : What about the Data Banks and Manpower Corporations to have more reliable data on employment ?

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I think we are working on that. Of course, I speak subject to correction.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House will now adjourn to reassemble at 11,00 hours on Monday.

18.28 hrs

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till  
Eleven of the Clock on Monday,  
May 9, 1988/Vaisakha 19, 1910  
(Saka)*