

(Interruptions)

SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN : I would request the Hon. Minister to see that until a peaceful settlement is arrived at, *status quo* of the Ayodhya shrine should also be maintained.

SHRI M. M. JACOB : I can assure the Hon. Members that *status quo* will be maintained. Efforts and dialogues for a peaceful solution will be continued. Whenever the State Government wants, they are required to cooperate for negotiations. *(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : You need not reply to all this.

SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN : In view of the assurance just now given by the Hon. Minister, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my Resolution.

MR. SPEAKER : Has the Hon. Member leave of the House to withdraw the Resolution ?

MANY HON. MEMBERS : Yes.

SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN : I withdraw the resolution.

The Resolution was by leave withdrawn

16.45 hrs.

Resolution re. Unemployment

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up the Resolution on Unemployment to be moved by Shri Tej Narayan Singh.

Before we take up that Resolution, we have to fix the time for the discussion of this Resolution. Shall we fix the time as two hours ?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS :
Yes.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Sir, for the time being, let it be two hours.

MR. SPEAKER : So, the time allotted is two hours for this Resolution. Mr. Tej Narayan Singh.

[Translation]

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH : I beg to move :—

“This House do consider the situation arising out of growing unemployment in the country and recommend to the Government to take urgent measures to tackle the same.”

16.46 hrs.

[SHRI P. M. SAYEED in the Chair]

It is irony of fate that such a Bill is being presented in the House after 42 years of independence. Frankly speaking, the problem of unemployment should not have been there after 42 years of independence, but today there are crores of unemployed youths in the country. There is no State in the country where you won't find a group of unemployed youth. Whether it is a small or a big State, the number of unemployed youth is enormous. It is surprising that not only literate people are unemployed but the uneducated people are also jobless. According to the official figures the number of uneducated unemployed is more as compared to educated unemployed. According to the official statistics the number of the people who are registered with Employment Exchanges is nearly 32 crores today. It means the number of unemployed youth is more

than the half of the total population of the country which is 70-75 crores. I believe, had these people been provided with jobs, the condition of the country would not have been so bad as it is today. I am surprised to note as to how the Government has failed to provide employment to uneducated people because providing job to unemployed people was very easy. Had proper arrangement for irrigation been made for whole of the country the uneducated people would have found work in the fields and earned their livelihood but if we look at the data, except Punjab and Haryana, there is no such State which is self-sufficient in the matter of irrigation. The country is facing famine conditions and half of the States of the country are in the grip of draught. Even after 42 years of independence, the country has not become self-sufficient in irrigation. Had the country been self-sufficient in the field of irrigation, I believe, there would not have been any apprehension of famine in any State. But now-a-days the irrigation arrangements are not sufficient. This way the condition of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan etc. is very bad. All the States are in the grip of draught. The crop has not been sown. The sowing season of paddy is going to end.

I understand that paddy has not been sown in half of the States of the country. As it has not been done, we will be faced with the food problem. There has not been even 1 per cent developmental work in any State of the country that is why the youth of the country is jobless today. There is hardly any such state where there is no problem of educated unemployment. Not only Matriculates, B.As and

M.A's but even doctors and engineers are jobless. Had the doctors and engineers been provided jobs, I believe that the country would have made much progress. But, even after 42 years of independence the Government has not been able to do anything. With the result all the Youths of the country are without employment. No law has been framed to the effect that, if any Government fails to provide jobs to the youth of the country, the people would have the right to file a case against the Government to get a job. We raised this matter number of times. But the Government did not pay any attention towards it. The article 16 of the Constitution should have been amended to provide that if any Government fails to provide job to the youth of the country they would be free to move the court to get a job. Had this provision been made youth of the country would not have been unemployed. A new clause should be added to the article 16 giving the right to youth of the country to go to court if any Government fails to provide job. There are various ways and schemes by which unemployment can be removed by Government. In many States there are no industries. There are very few industries in Bihar. Crores of youth are coming from that State to Delhi, Punjab and Haryana and other States to earn their livelihood. If arrangements are made there itself, the youth of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh won't move to Delhi, Punjab and Haryana to earn their livelihood. After all, they cannot depend on Punjab, Delhi and Haryana for ever. They want to develop the States to which they belong. Government of India did not make any development in Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh

in any field. Land reforms have not been implemented in any big State. The land of the country is in the grip of big landlords but there is no use of it. If the land would have been distributed among poor people according to the land ceiling act, that would have also minimised the problem of unemployment. In States like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh many landlords have got 10 thousand acres of land and that land is lying vacant but the poor men of the villages are totally landless. I believe, if the land had been distributed to the youth after enforcing land ceiling Laws, he could manage to earn livelihood for his family. Ceiling Law was not implemented even after independence. It was not implemented because the persons who owned land were in power in Delhi. Had a poor man's son been in power in Delhi, I believe that the land ceiling law would have been implemented in this country and the land would have definitely been distributed among the poor. The worshippers of Rama may also say that a poor man's son has not occupied this seat. It is a second thing, but a person like me calls it a misfortune.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : It is the poor man who is occupying the seat of power in Delhi.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH : A person like me calls it a misfortune. A poor man has not come to power as yet. That is why a few landlords are possessing the most of the area of land in the country and those people are in power. Who works for the poor is called a poor man in real terms. If a

poor man's son is in power and works to safeguard the interests of landowners, he will not be called a poor man's son. A poor man's son is one, who raises his voice against a person who has illegally grabbed land. He, who talks of giving justice to those who have been deprived of it, is a poor man's son, be he anybody's son. But the countrymen understand only the other meaning and not this. If the land ceiling law had been implemented in the country, it would have improved the situation. Everybody is talking of welfare of the country, even the people who give the slogan of "Jai Shri Rama". We also talk of the welfare of the country, the people who swear by Gandhi and Nehru also talk of the welfare of the country, but what has been done after 42 years of independence. Who had prevented the Government from removing poverty and providing jobs to the youth? But these people don't discuss that. If they have not been able to do anything even after occupying the seat of power for 42 years why they are criticising us. They criticise the 11 month rule and say just look at it. They only quote our Government which ruled for only 11 months and do not cite the example of 42 years or 4 month rule. You should also cite the example of 42 years' rule.

If an old man falls he does not get up but if a child falls he immediately gets up. Similarly, if those who were in power for last 11 months have fallen, they will stand again but if Congress falls, it will never stand up again. Congress is old and wornout. It will never stand up if it crumbles down. When it was young and had 425 members even then it did not do much. Today the Party has grown old and is in a shambles. Just like the old man who has

lost his sense of sight and strength the Congress Party is just surviving. If laws have to be enacted they should be enacted promptly. Only then can the country progress. Otherwise, the Country cannot progress, not even through the slogans of *Jai Sri Ram*.

PROF. PREM DHUMAL (Hamirpur): You have at least remembered Rama like that.

SHRI TEJ NARAYAN SINGH: Through you, I would like to submit to the Government that the Land Reforms Act should be expeditiously implemented in order to provide employment to the unemployed youth. New industries should be set up. A provision should be made in Article 16 of the Constitution that if a Government does not provide work to the youth in the Country, they should have a right to knock the doors of court and file a case against the State. If these three things are done only then will the youth in this country will be benefited. We say that it is their fate but we should know that it is not true. God is not to be blamed for it. God is in everybody. A person remembers him when he goes to sleep or wakes up and everywhere else. It is a different thing that today name of Rama is remembered at other places whereas earlier it was remembered in jungle. Our scriptures say that if a person crosses 50 years he becomes old and should therefore leaves his family for 'Vanprastha' i.e. for the jungle for meditation and prayers. But in the modern world today there is lot of development and new inventions. That may be one of the reasons why we do not remember God in the jungle anymore. Now the name of Rama is remembered in the House. That is a separate matter. Scriptures

say that the real devotees of Rama still stay in the forests.

I will conclude after making one more point. The youth of the country should be provided jobs. They want work. We will not be able to wait them for long.

17.00 hrs

They should be given work, whatever possible. If they are not given work, they will lose patience whether they are literate or illiterate. They want work and therefore the Government must make arrangements to provide them work at the earliest. If it is not done the youth would be disillusioned and they would feel that this Government is not their own. Every MP or MLA says that this is not his duty. Therefore, through you, I demand from the Government to provide work to the unemployed youth and amend the Constitution accordingly. The Land Ceiling Act should be implemented and more factories set up so that the youth in the country could be provided jobs.

[English]

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, first of all I would thank you for giving me this opportunity to participate in this discussion on the problem of unemployment.

The problem of unemployment is a very very serious problem. We all, irrespective of our party affiliations feel concerned about this problem. There is no controversy about it. There is no controversy about the magnitude of this problem, about the priority that the programme of employment should get. But the question is how to approach this problem?

How to solve this problem ?

As you know, the learned speaker who spoke just before me, while moving the Resolution went to the extent of saying that nothing has been done in this country for solving this problem of unemployment. But, I would say that is far from truth. I would say, he has not been able to appreciate the difficult situation that the country is passing through. There is no doubt about it that this problem of unemployment is assuming serious proportions day by day. Everyday, more and more unemployed persons are added to the list. What are the reasons ? The principal reasons that could be attributed to are (1) phenomenal growth of unemployed persons mainly due to increase in population and (2) Galloping rate of inflation.

It is no use just to go on expressing our anxiety and try to put blame on one Government or the other or one Party or the other. It will not serve any purpose. First, let us go to the roots of this problems. Unless this phenomenal growth of population is arrested, whatever steps we take, we cannot solve this problem wholesomely.

In 1981, the population of our country was 64 crores. In 1991, it has gone up to 84 crores.

So, if in every decade, there will be an addition to population of this magnitude, then how can we contain it, how can we solve this problem of unemployment ?

At the time when we achieved our Independence, our population was of the order of 34 crores; now it is 50 crores more, that is 84 crores. And if you keep together everything, that is, unemployed, educated unemployed, uneducated unemployed or half

under-employed, if you put all these figures together, will it be 50 crores? Definitely not. That means if somebody from the other side says that nothing has been done for the last four decades, how wrong he is. We have done; we have covered a lot of ground but for this reason that it is not spectacular now. But, whatever it is, this is a very very grave problem. This is going on increasing and there should be a rethinking about the solution also.

We all feel or our experts, the political people, the leaders, Planning Commission experts, they all feel that expanding agriculture is the only way to mitigate unemployment. I also agree with them. But some facts established by way of research by some experts, economists, etc. goes to show something else, something revealing.

Historically, agriculture has accounted for around 70 per cent of all jobs; about 70 per cent people in our country live on agriculture; about 80 per cent people live in villages. And also agriculture accounts for about 70 per cent of all jobs. But in the latest period for which an assessed data is available upto 1983-84, only 11.7 per cent of males and 0.3 per cent of females enter the work force; they join work force in the farm sector. And in the decade ending 1987-88, jobs in farms rose only by 0.74 per cent. This is very important; I underline this once again. In the last decade ending 1987-88, jobs in the agriculture sector rose only by this meagre 0.74 per cent annually; whereas this is only one-third of the rate of our population growth. So, whatever is the population growth, only one-third of that is added or increased in respect of jobs creation

in agriculture sector. So, it calls for a lot of measures to be taken even in the agriculture sector.

All those unemployed do not come to the Employment Exchanges to register their names. By and large, the educated people get their names registered. But, besides, there are many people who are unemployed, who are unemployed labour and also under employed; their number is also very high.

In U.P., Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Tamilnadu and Bihar, there has been a study made by Professor Shield Bhalla of the Jawaharlal Nehru University. The study has come up with a startling discovery in these five States which together account for about half of the entire population of the country. That farm employment has been actually falling down.

On the one hand, as the yield rises and the production rises, on the other hand in the farm sector, that is the agricultural sector, employment goes down. This negates the conventional wisdom that employment keeps rising with production. So there is need for considerable re-thinking on agriculture, as an avenue of employment.

So, when we go in for mechanisation, naturally that reduces the employment of manual labour. Again increase in labour wages is also stated to be one of the factors. Whatever it is, it is also an unanimous view that if there is more and more irrigation and if more than one crop can be grown, or even two or three crops, considerable employment is created. Naturally, in that process also some labour is employed and, therefore, ours being an agricultural country

and agriculture is the backbone of our economy, it holds the key to our economy and for our progress and prosperity. So there should be all out efforts for bringing more and more areas under irrigation every year. And in the process also, when there is more than one crop or multiple crops, rural unemployment can be solved to a greater extent.

Then, coming to educated unemployment also, I am constrained to observe that our system of education also is by and large responsible for this. Nowhere—even in socialist countries—it has been possible to provide government jobs to all. But those who are coming out of *alma mater*, the universities in our country, expect government jobs, by and large. And when they fail to get government jobs they become frustrated. That has been our experience. We cannot solely find fault with them. Because the system is such. There has not been much departure from the system that was prevailing prior to independence in our country. That system almost continues and it cannot create a sense of confidence in our educated youths, that they can find suitable government jobs for themselves, or that they can find suitable source of dignified livelihood for themselves.

Therefore, it is time that a re-thinking is done about our system of education and how it can be linked with the creation of jobs and how our educated youths also could adjust themselves to the changing situation. I suggest that before degrees and diplomas are conferred on our educated youths, some sort of compulsory stay in rural areas—say for six months or one year or so—should be insisted upon. The expenditure for

that should be borne by the Government. Then they would realise the dignity of labour. But they should also be ready to do manual labour. What we find in our country is that those who are educated, those who even read up to matriculation, do not like to do manual labour. They at best become supervisors of manual labour.

This therefore calls for some revolutionary changes in the mind of our youths. A revolutionary change in the environment and educational system need to be brought in urgently.

Then I would come to some other points.

Sir, I now come to 'right to work'. The problem is so vigorous. The magnitude is very deep. Some political parties have included this in their manifesto; they have done a lot of loud thinking and talking about making 'right to work' a fundamental right. And even some are thinking in terms of giving some unemployment allowance to unemployed. Unemployment allowance can be given. But let us not call it as 'unemployment allowance'. Let them be given some sort of jobs against certain minimum payment. It is very difficult in our system to make 'right to work' as fundamental right. There should be consensus on this by all the parties. All the political parties should sit together and address this problem. This problem is very much agitating in the minds of our youth, their parents and everybody. We were moving in the villages only two, three months before of the time of election. Even now we go there often. We noticed how painful the situation is. There are a number of educated unemployed young men in every

village. Irrigation should be given top priority. Also cottage industry should be given priority.

While talking of Industrial Policy also, we have to see that cottage industry is not brushed aside. Due importance should be given to cottage industry and the interest of this sector should be protected. Sir, bank loan with reasonable interest or lower interest should be given to the unemployed youth.

The Jawahar Rozgar Yojana has been started in States in a big way. In many States, including Orissa, I find that the purpose of this programme is to some extent defeated. The proposals, as passed by Gram Sabhas, are being overlooked or changed on political considerations by the MLAs who happen to be the Chairman of the Work & Committees at Block levels, and wherein, besides MLAs, only the BDO and two overseers are the members. So, the political consideration should not be there. The political consideration adversely affects employment prospects of the people in rural areas.

In the sector of organised industry, job creation was not satisfactory in the last one decade and also the same is the case in agricultural sector. At the same time, we have to control the population growth.

While thinking of creating more jobs, and also making agricultural sector a meaningful and an effective avenue for creation of more jobs by providing irrigation, by way of encouraging cottage industry, by advancing loan to the unemployed youth and also carrying on labour-oriented programmes like Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, we should check the

population growth. As I said initially, our population was about 35 crores at the time of partition. Over the last four decades our population was added by 50 crores. If it goes on like this, naturally whatever we do we cannot overcome the unemployment problem, we cannot solve this problem. Vigorous efforts will have to be made in arresting the population growth. In a country like India, there should be a little bit of compulsion. While saying so I am quite conscious and cautious that probably in this field, a bit of compulsion is required for controlling population. This cannot be done by one party alone. So all the political parties sitting together, should address themselves to the various aspects of this ever increasing problem of unemployment and find a solution.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM DHUMAL : Sir, the hon. Member has brought a resolution to control the increasing unemployment in the country through some quick action by the Government. The second resolution is by hon. Shri Ramesh Chennithala on right to work'. I feel that both these resolutions can be taken up together for discussion as both have the same objective. It is true that the unemployment problem is becoming serious day by day. How serious the situation is can be gauged from the fact that during the discussion, Shri Tej Narayan Singh invoked the name of God nearly 10-12 times. We are all aware of the extreme seriousness of the situation. During election time, political parties promise employment opportunities to youth in order to gather votes. The ruling party had promised 10 million jobs to one crore

people within a year's time.

A question was raised in this Lok Sabha regarding this matter. The hon. Minister was asked as to how people were to be given employment when there exists a ban on recruitment in Central Government. The hon. Minister replied that efforts would be made to create job opportunities in the private sector. The private sector has its own criteria for providing employment opportunities. It will lay emphasis on mechanisation where there is less requirement for manpower. This Government cannot escape its responsibility in the hope that the private sector will create job opportunities, revive sick units and take over sick public sector units also.

It is regrettable that in a developing country like ours, engineers are unemployed. Joining the ranks of the unemployed engineers and overseers every year are the lakhs of people educated in other fields. The total figure is around 4-5 crores and this does not include disguised unemployment in this country. People who get employment only for part of the year are counted among the unemployed. My hon. colleagues talk of the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana as a means to provide employment opportunities in rural areas. I would like the Government to make a survey of the number of people who got employment under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana and for how many days in a year. The hon. Member said zero. It may not be zero but the corruption that is prevalent in, whatever little is available, has probably come to your notice. The Government cannot use the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana as a shield or shift its responsibility to the private sector.

The Government must encourage small scale and cottage industry. In the Railway Budget presented by Shri George Fernandes, a provision was made to use 'Kulhars' for serving tea at railway stations. This decision made potters happy because they got work. It is their profession and they are ready to work for it but they do not have their own land, wood for drying the pots or a shed to protect the pots from rain. If the Government provides assistance to the potters for building sheds and getting mud and wood, the potters will become self-employed.

While discussing the Industrial Policy many people said that today the biggest cobbler was Bata and the biggest ironsmith was the Tata. We have discouraged the occupations that could have been practised at home. These days everyone is migrating to the cities in search of employment and this has led to the proliferation of slums.

Fruits are grown in villages and in backward areas. In the hilly areas, the fruit crop can survive only upto a stipulated time and after that it perishes. The small farmer cannot preserve these fruits. If fruit-based industries are set up in those areas, it will reduce the burden on cities and people will get a means of livelihood also.

Every politician of a State infested by terrorism says that unemployment is the root cause for it and it is true to some extent. Then the Government offers a package deal to one such state and this includes provision of additional job opportunities. Does this not encourage unemployed youth of other States to take to terrorism in the belief that the Government will then offer them job opportunities? What I mean

is that the unemployment problem is not that of one State but of the entire country. The official policy in this respect should be applicable to the entire country.

A number of people are employed in the Central Government and State Governments. Many among them can become self-employed and leave their Government jobs. I request the hon. Minister to look into the possibility of offering the facility of premature retirement with attractive benefits to Government employees. The vacancies created in this way could be used to provide employment to the unemployed.

Attention must also be paid to mechanisation. Human resources are our greatest asset and schemes should be formulated to encourage the labour class. Elaborate schemes have been drawn up in the Industrial Policy for the benefit of multinationals and Non-Resident Indians. Now attention must be diverted to small-scale and cottage industries which are assured sources of employment for people (*Interruptions*) even that has been left out. If products such as surf, salt and soap are to be manufactured by the Tatas then the Government should identify the products to be manufactured by the small-scale sector. Industries where a person with low investment capacity can work and which are labour-intensive must be identified. Another suggestion that I want to make is that there should be country-wide recruitment for para-military forces like B. S. F., I. T. B. P., C. R. P. F. and C. I. S. F. Most of the recruitment is undertaken in those particular States from where the officials and Ministers hail. I would like to draw your attention towards another pro-

blem connected with this issue. Earlier recruitment in Army was not undertaken in proportion to population of a State. Only a few years back, rules were amended to make recruitment in proportion to population of a State. Many persons of four small states of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir, used to join armed forces to serve the country, but with the change of rule of recruitment in proportion to population, recruitment from these states has declined and the consequences are before everyone to see. Maximum number of people from these States, who love to be in armed forces, should be recruited, but the recruitment from these States, on the other hand, is on the decline. Recruitment from these States is declining and that's why the present situation of people taking up arms has developed. Therefore, I urge upon the Minister to reconsider the present policy and persons hailing from families traditionally associated with armed forces for generations to serve the country should be recruited on priority basis. I am of the view that in this way, we would be able to check terrorism to a great extent. The present policy has made them feel that their representation in the armed forces is declining. Share of Himachal Pradesh earlier was 6 per cent and now it stands at 0.6 per cent.

Similar is the case of Punjab, Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir. Only if the present system of recruitment is altered, we will be able to recruit persons from these States. Youth of these States are educated and are in search of proper employment. They love to be in armed forces, and they want to sacrifice their lives for the sake of the country, but when they go to seek recruitment in the armed for-

ces, they are told that quota meant for their States has been completed.

I know the fate of the resolution moved by the hon. Member. Its fate will be not different from the fate of other resolutions. I would like to make one thing clear that if nothing is done by the Government to seriously tackle the worsening unemployment problem, which is getting worse with every passing day, then most of us will not be able to face the electorate. Now youth cannot be befooled again and again as they are feeling very much disturbed because of unemployment. The Government must take steps as per the aspirations of people to provide them employment.

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria) : Mr. Chairman, Sir I rise to support the Resolution. At the time of adoption of Constitution of India, it was pledged by us to make India a welfare State, but the difficulty is that the countries from which we had borrowed the concept of welfare State, provision of employment is the responsibility of the State. In the event of failure of the State to provide employment to any citizen, there is provision for payment of unemployment allowance to him. All this is enshrined in the Constitution of the country from which this concept has been borrowed by us. But with the adoption of Constitution of our country, a way out was found and this provision was included in directive principles of state policy, resulting in perpetual assurance to provide employment to the youth and the unemployed by the Government for the last 40-44 years since independence, though the situation is turning from bad to worse. The situation of unemployment is getting worse. According to the official figures,

nearly 4 crore youths are registered as unemployed and unfortunately out of these unemployed youths, 12 lakhs are engineers and doctors, for whom the Government has spent crores of rupees on the education with the promise that employment would be provided to these technically qualified persons, but even their condition is miserable. There are many reasons for it and without going into details, I would like to put forward few concrete suggestions. Under the economic structure of the country, which we had conceived, priority should have been given for the development of agriculture and industry, but even these sectors of our economy have remained backward. I do not want to repeat the points raised by me during debate on industrial policy, but I would like to submit that in the field of agriculture, 30 lakh hectares of land has remained as barren land. If this barren land is turned into a fertile land, then at one single go, employment to 2 crores of youth could be provided. Provision of irrigational facilities to 50 lakh hectares of land can increase its fertility and help in growing more crops. In this way alone, 5 crores of people could be provided employment in agriculture, but it is an irony that enough attention has not been paid towards reforms and progress in agricultural sector nor towards formulation of new policy and new ideas. The reason for it is the emergence of paradoxical situation in which agriculture is controlled by the capitalists. Industry, trade and even Government jobs are controlled by these capitalists.

The day constitution is amended and right to employment is included among the fundamental rights, a revolutionary situation will emerge in

the country and under public pressure fundamental changes in economic policy will also be brought about, resulting in implementation of 'one man one job' principle automatically. In this way, the scope of employment opportunities would also be widened. There should be a ban on provision of Government jobs to families having land holding close to ceiling limit and the families having persons in Government jobs and people capable of paying income tax should not be allowed to be associated with any trade and industry. The day such a provision is enacted, job opportunities will both expand vertically and horizontally. At present, all the jobs are being cornered by a few families due to the Concentration of capital and wealth with few individuals in the country.

That's why issue of decentralisation and small industries is being raised time and again by us and the third point that is linked to it is the planned family. I agree with the views of my hon. colleague who has rightly said that family planning cannot be done through coercion, but a law might be enacted for the purpose. It is generally felt that it is the duty of the State to provide employment to each and every citizen of the country, then it should also be the duty of the State to decide upon the number of children, a couple can have. Any couple having more than two children should be fined and it should be the duty of the State to provide new job opportunities. Such a law needs to be enacted for restricting size of family in our country.

With these words, I suggest that fundamental changes may be brought about in the country, so as to generate

continuous job opportunities for people. If these measures are not taken, there might be explosive situation in our country and people will forcibly snatch the wealth and capital from those who have it and there might be an anarchical environment in our society. Today a Bill tabled by opposition has been accepted by the Government, similarly, the Bill to include right to employment under fundamental rights may also be accepted by the Government, so that the nation may march forward to implement the new social, industrial and agricultural policy

With these few suggestions, I express my thanks to you.

[English]

SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI (Kasaragod): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for the opportunity given to me.

It is a very important Resolution as far as this country is concerned. We know that at the time of achieving Independence in the year 1947, the then Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, expressed his grief stating that he was very much concerned about 33 lakhs of unemployed youth found in this country and the priority of the Congress Government then would be to give employment to those 33 lakhs of unemployed youth. But unfortunately his grief remains even now. Not only that. The present educated unemployed in this country is more than 3 crores. The others who are capable of doing work, both men and women, their number exceeds 13 crores. So, this is the present situation in the country. What is the reason for this? How this situation developed? My view is that because of the bad

planning, because of the wrong direction, the Ruling Party, mainly the Congress, followed in respect of solving the unemployment problem, the number of the army of unemployed youth increased. Further, you know, we cannot simply blame the Government. What is the main reason for the increased number of unemployed? You know, in this country we are having a planned economy. Now we completed seven Five Year Plans. The main question is whether we reached the target or not. That is a different thing. But our planners calculated that in the year 1990 the population of this country will be round about 50 crores. But the number of population in the country is now 85 crores. That means, 35 crores more. Had the population remained at the level of 50 crores in the year 1990, we would not have faced this problem because this increased population of 35 crores upset the planners. Our Five Year Plans failed because of the increase in the population. Now, if we really want to solve the unemployment problem, we should restrict the population also. Otherwise this problem cannot be solved. So, what is the solution? First we should check the population and ensure family planning. If the family planning is strictly enforced, then unemployment problem will be solved gradually. How to enforce the family planning? Some of our religions are opposed to the family planning. Then how to stop the increase in population? We should find out some other method. That method, according to me, is the restriction on population to which some of our religions also may agree. That is, we must restrict the number of children that one family should have. It may be two; it may be three. But if

any family is having more than three children, it should be the responsibility of the parents alone to look after the welfare of those children. We are having parliamentary democracy in this country. So, some restriction in the electoral process should also be introduced.

SHRI E. AHAMED (Manjeri) : Is it for solving the unemployment problem ?

SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI : Yes; the problem of unemployment that we face is because of the unrestricted growth in the population of our country. We are having a planned economy and we must see that our plans succeed. If our population is not controlled, then there is no meaning of having Five Year Plans. If any parents who have more than the limited number of children, their voting rights must be taken away. They should not be allowed to contest in the election also. We have so many MPs and MLAs who have more than half-a-dozen children. *(Interruptions)*

Mr. CHAIRMAN : If we pass a resolution of this kind, probably I will be the first person to lose the Membership

SHRI MUKUL BALAKRISHNA WASNIK (Buldana) : The resolution will be enforced for the future and not with retrospective effect.

SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI : For solving the unemployment problem, the point expressed by me is very important. Now the persons who have more than half-a-dozen children also contest the Assembly and Parliamentary elections. They are becoming Ministers also. *(Interruptions)* While formulating the policy, we should have the interest of the nation upper-

most in our mind. In the interest of the nation, we should control our population. So, to check the population growth, some restriction is necessary. We should take away the voting rights of the people who have more than half-a-dozen children and they should be prohibited from contesting in the election also. It is not against any religion; it is not against Hinduism and it is not against Christianity. This is a secular country and so we should have voting rights also based on secular policies. Therefore, religion has nothing to do with this.

Before giving voting right, we must consider this aspect also. Some restriction in the electoral system must be made.

In our country, the Government is not supplying necessary food articles or rationing articles etc to the people. There should be some restriction on food. Government must be compelled to give food and necessary articles to those who are having limited number of children. It is the responsibility of the Government to provide necessary medical facilities, free education and jobs if the family has two children only. If a family is having more than two children, it should be exclusively the responsibility of the parents to give food, medical facilities and other help to their children. They should not look to the Government if the number of their children exceeds that limit. If the family is having two children, Government should give them job also. They should be given priority while providing jobs. If the family is having more than two children, three or four or five, it is the responsibility of the parents to provide some jobs to their children.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Should they be punished?

SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI : No. The children should not be punished. The parents should be encouraged to send their children as agricultural labourers and such other jobs. They should not seek Government jobs.

First of all, some restriction in the voter's list should be made.

SHRI E. AHAMED : Should any punishment be given to the children?

SHRI M. RAMANNA RAI : No punishment should be given to the children. The punishment is only to those parents who act without any consideration for our State.

If we are serious about solving this unemployment problem, we must be serious about our family planning also. We should restrict the number of children a family should have. Unless we solve the population problem, we will not be able to solve unemployment problem also.

We are having a Welfare State. Welfare State means Government should be able to provide minimum requirements like food, medicines and education.

We are facing a grave situation. As I said earlier, in India we are having 35 crores excess population. We should restrict the population to 50 crores. Anyhow, we are having 35 crores more. They too are Indians. They too are entitled to live in this country as Indians. They should be provided something to live. At least they should be provided with food, education, medicine etc to lead a good life. This will be possible only if something is done to eradicate the unemployment

problem. This is mainly the responsibility of the Government. If necessary, some kind of a legislation must also be brought forward. Unless this problem is solved, India will be ruined. So, to save this country from ruination, we should solve this unemployment problem.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI E. AHAMED : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are now discussing a most important problem. I would like to say that the country is facing a great challenge today as far as this problem is concerned. We are facing many challenges on the economic front, political front and everywhere. But I should say that as far as the economic front is concerned, the unemployment problem is the most serious problem that this country is facing today. The question before the rulers, the administrators, the politicians, the sociologists and every section of the intelligentsia is how to solve the unemployment problem. The only one answer is to generate more employment. Without generating employment, we will not be able to solve the unemployment problem. In this connection, the Government should evolve a strategy to reduce the unemployment problem so as to generate more employment. How will we be able to do it? As a matter of fact some of the reports from the Planning Commission give important information. If one will go through the publications of the Planning Commission one may find that the growth rate of employment has fallen every year. For example, the Publication of the Planning Commission on employment—May 1990—will give a fascinating reading if one looks into it. On reading what I could find was that the growth rate of

employment has fallen from 2.82 per cent during 1972—78 to 2.22 per cent during the year 1977—83. In the agricultural sector also, the growth rate has fallen from 2.32 per cent per annum to 1.55 per cent. Regarding manufacturing sector, the employment growth rate has fallen from 5.10 per cent during 1972—78 to 2.10 per cent during 1983—88. We have got three sectors where we will be able to provide more employment—the first one is the manufacturing sector, second one is the agricultural sector and the third one is the services sector. In the services sector I could find that during 1972—78, the growth rate was at the rate of 3.67 per cent which has fallen to 2.5 per cent during 1983—88. The only silverlining in the intervening years is when it touches 4.69 per cent. For the last several years, the main opportunities of employment have increased only in the construction and mining sectors. One can find this picture, if one goes through the details. In the other sectors in our country where we face a grim challenge of unemployment, the growth rate of employment is being reduced year after year.

18.00 hrs.

This is a serious problem for which we have to address ourselves to find out some remedial measures. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Hon. Member may continue his speech next time.

Now the Minister of External Affairs shall make a statement regarding the Pakistan Prime Minister's interview to the Newsweek Magazine of the 19th August, 1991.

(Interruptions)

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh) : I know after the Foreign Minister's statement, you will not allow for any clarification. Therefore, I would like to know now itself whether he has drawn the attention of the Prime Minister to his interview or not. He should mention about this also.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Everybody knows here that after the statement is made by the hon. Minister, no clarifications are permitted in this House. Of course, it is there in the Upper House.

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : It is just a statement. There might be opportunity for the hon. Members to seek clarifications at the time of the discussion on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of External Affairs.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now the Minister may make the statement.

18.01 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Pakistan Prime Minister's interview to the Newsweek magazine of 19th August, 1991

[English]

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (MADHAVSINH SOLANKI) : Several Members had expressed concern at the reported interview of the Pakistan Prime Minister published in the Newsweek magazine of the 19th August, 1991, stating that the Kashmir issue is increasing tension between India and Pakistan and has the "potential to be the cause, God forbid, of yet another