

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Wednesday, November 24, 1971 | Agrahayana 3, 1893

(SAKA)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Suggestions by National Council of Applied Economic Research for Providing Jobs to Unemployed

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*211. SHRI P. GANGADEB :
SHRI P. M. METHA :
DR. SANKATA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Rs. 106 crores integrated programme to provide jobs to the unemployed and to launch in attack on poverty has been suggested by the National Council of Applied Economic Research ; and

(b) if so, whether Government have examined these suggestions ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA) : (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Suggestions by National Council of Applied Economic Research for providing jobs to unemployed.

The National Council of Applied Economic Research has suggested an integrated programme, for the generation of additional employment opportunities through undertaking rural public works programme and through providing employment to the educated and trained people for a period in jobs which would strengthen the rural public works programme directly and generally raise the productive capacity of the rural community.

The proposal envisages providing of employment to educated unemployed under well turned-out schemes for mapping out the country in terms of worthwhile public works projects. The scheme would provide employment to graduate engineers and diploma holders, who will do the initial surveys for road works, irrigation works, soil conservation etc. The proposal also envisages offering employment to one lakh of educated persons with general education such as graduates, intermediates and matriculates, mainly as teachers in village schools. The total financial requirements for the project are Rs. 31 crores for employment to educated unemployed and Rs. 75 crores for the rural works project.

The other suggestions made are : that these programmes should be integrated into the Plan and the cost of it met partly by economy in expenditure and partly by raising fresh resources. Restrictive practices inhibiting production should be removed. Adequate supply of raw materials should be assured.

Government have generally kept in view these considerations and have formulated various programmes under the Plan. Special programmes thus formulated include Small Farmers Development Agencies (Rs. 67.5 crores), Agencies for Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labourers (Rs. 47.5 crores), Rural Works Programme (Rs. 100 crores), Dry Farming Programmes (Rs. 20 crores) and Area Development Schemes (Rs. 15 crores). In addition, the Crash Scheme for Rural Employment which has been taken up during the current year, is expected to provide employment for 1000 persons on an average in each District. A provision of Rs. 50 crores has been made in the budget for 1971-72 for this programme. A special provision has also been made in the Central Budget for 1971-72 for schemes specially designed to suit the educated unemployed, including engineers and technicians. The main programmes approved relate to : employment of teachers in the primary schools, rural engineering surveys, setting up of agro-service centres, extending

assistance to entrepreneurs for setting up small scale industries, investigation of road works to be undertaken in the Fifth Plan, building up of design units for rural water supply and providing assistance to entrepreneurs for setting up of petrol dealerships. These programmes are expected to provide employment to a large number of teachers, engineers, diploma holders, draftsmen, graduates and matriculates besides semi-skilled and un-skilled workers.

SHRI P. GANGADEB : Has this Council suggested that if these programmes are super-imposed on the existing programmes of investments and expenditures its impact will be inflationary and, therefore, to ward off this danger they should be integrated in the Plan and not super-imposed on the plan? If that be so, whether the Government is considering to incorporate these schemes in the reappraisals of the Fourth Plan as well as in the annual plans of 1972-73?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA : It is true that the Council has suggested that if these plans and programmes are to be accepted, the resources should be mobilised either through economy or through fresh taxation. At the same time, it has also suggested that they should be included in the Plan expenditure. While the Fourth Plan is now on appraisal we are considering these various schemes. At the same time, many of the schemes proposed by the Council are already accepted and under implementation as part of the Plan.

SHRI P. GANGADEB : Since there are more unemployed engineers in this country, and jobs are not available for them, may I know what steps Government are taking to induce these engineers to start their own industries in the villages?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA : Along with the various plans and programmes now under implementation, the public finance institutions have now declared several schemes of liberal credit. Several facilities are being given by the Industrial Finance Corporations and the industrial development corporations to the young engineers.

SHRI P. GANGADEB : May I know whether the Government is also proposing to accord high priority to employment-oriented industries in this country?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA : I have assured this House earlier that all schemes which are oriented and production-oriented are being given the highest priority.

SHRI P. M. METHTA : It is mentioned on page 2 of the statement :

"In addition, the Crash Schemes for Rural Employment, which has been taken up during the current year, is expected to provide employment for 1,000 persons on an average in each district. A provision of Rs. 50 crores has been made in the budget for 1971-72 for this programme."

I would like to know from the Minister how many persons have been given employment and what is the actual amount spent under this scheme for the purpose of employment. I would also like to know whether this employment is of a permanent or temporary nature.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA : This crash programme for rural unemployment is of a permanent nature. It is not only Rs. 50 crores but Rs. 150 crores for the remaining period of the Fourth Plan has already been sanctioned. So far as the exact impact of these schemes is concerned, we are awaiting reports of appraisal of the Fourth Plan. I cannot say today what is the exact impact and how many persons are already employed.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या यह बात सही है कि इस परिषद् के द्वारा जो सुझाव दिया गया है, उसमें एक सुझाव यह भी है कि इस देश के अंदर देहात के क्षेत्र में बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर सड़कों का जाल बिछाया जाये, जिससे देहात की बेरोजगारी दूर हो और शहरों की बेरोजगारी को दूर करने के लिये बड़ी तादाद में मकान निर्माण करने का सुझाव दिया है? यदि हाँ, तो कितनी सड़कों का आप बिछाव करते वाले हैं और कितने मकान आबाना करने वाले हैं?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA : It is true that they have proposed a massive scheme of road construction and house construction. All these schemes are under consideration. I cannot say exactly what would be the mileage of roads or the number of houses constructed.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछुवाय : मकान कितने बनाने वाले हैं ?

श्री मोहन धारिया : वह मैंने कहा कि मैं इस समय नहीं बता सकता

श्री अवधेश चंद्र सिंह : क्या यह सही है कि इस योजना में जहाँ एक तरफ पढ़े लिखे लोगों को कोई रोजगार नहीं मिल रहा है, वहाँ दूसरी तरफ पढ़े लिखे लोग काम के लिये नहीं मिल रहे हैं, जिनके लिये कि यह योजना गांवों में चलाई जा रही है ?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA : It is true that some of the educated people are not prepared to go to rural areas. But we have plans to give a lot of incentives so that they will go to the rural areas also.

SHRI RAJA KULKARNI : Have the NCAER studied the impact of modern technology on the structure of employment and the potential for creating further unemployment? Has it made any study of the impact of computers, for instance, on the problem of unemployment ?

MR. SPEAKER : He is enlarging the question.

SHRI RAJA KULKARNI : When NCAER is studying the impact of unemployment it should also consider those things which create unemployment.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA : It is not under our control. But in any good work that is undertaken by it we will give our co-operation.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : While these programmes may be good and worthwhile, difficulties are created when it comes to the question of implementation because they are being frustrated by some bureaucrats and vested interests.

MR. SPEAKER : Let there be no introduction.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : May I know whether the Government propose to have a vigorous follow-up action by appointing a reviewing committee to see that these plans are implemented as per programme ?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA : I entirely agree with the hon. Member that even when good schemes are sanctioned they are not properly implemented. Therefore, while reorienting the whole Plan we are insisting on certain monetary system whereby it would be possible not only to prepare plans but also to see that they are properly implemented.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA : It is mentioned in this statement that a provision of Rs. 50 crores has been made in the budget for 1971-72 for this programme. Is it something different from the Crash Programme ? Secondly, if it is a special and separate sanction may I know whether it is a fact that in West Bengal a large number of half-educated and uneducated young people have been recruited in the police department out of this fund ?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA : The main question is regarding the suggestions made by the NCAER. In the reply I have said that the scheme of this crash programme for rural employment opportunities with a provision of Rs. 50 crores is a Government scheme, sponsored by the Central Government, and it is made applicable to all the States. The plan submitted by the Council for employment is absolutely different from the schemes which are under implementation by the Government. However, it is true that many of the suggestions are already being executed by the Central and State Governments. So far as the other question is concerned, I am not in a position to say anything just now.

Establishment of T. V. Training Institute in Delhi

*212. SHRI N. E. HORO : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Television Training Institute has been established in Delhi by Government ; and

(b) if so, its training course and qualifications for trainees ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA) : (a) A TV Training Wing is being