

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I introduce the Bill.

15 38 1/2 hrs

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL*

(Amendment of article 26)

[English]

SHRI GEORGE FERNADES (Muzaffarpur): I beg to move for leave to withdraw the Bill further to amend the Constitution of India.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

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

The motion was adopted.

SHRI GEORGE FERNADES: I withdraw the Bill.

15.39 hrs

EMPLOYEMENT GUARANTEE BILL

By Sri Bhogendra Jha

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now the House will take up further consideration of the Employment Guarantee Bill moved by Shri Bhogendra Jha. I would like to mention that we have already taken 2 hours 24 minutes on this Bill thus exhausting the time allotted for this Bill. No the House has to allot further time on this Bill.

Is it the pleasure of the House that the

time allotted on this Bill be extended by one hour for the time being?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Two hours.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: So, we are extending the time allotted for this Bill by two hours more.

[Translation]

SHRI ASTBHUJA PRASAD SHUKLA (Khalilabad): Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, each section of society is concerned about the growing problem of unemployment in the country. Unemployment is becoming a curse for the country. Unemployment is the main reason behind the involvement of youths in violence and arson in the country. The Government datas show that there are 3 crore 30 lakh unemployed people in the country. The number of educated unemployed persons is more than 50 lakh. Engineers and doctors are also included in it.

Sir, during 40 years of its rule, the congress Government should have provided employment in the country, but it failed in it. There is lack of planning. It is very unfortunate our country that since the independence the policies have been framed taking the big industries into consideration, the policy farmers overlooked the basic need of the industries i.e., raw material, - that is produced in the fields. So the policies of this country should have been based on the agriculture and the farmers should have been provided fertilizers, electricity and pesticides etc. on cheaper rates for increasing the production. Remunerative prices should have been given to the farmers for their produce. The farmer, who works hard for years to grow food for the country, lives in a very pitiable condition. He gets nothing except hunger and debt. So the people do not want to work on the farms. They are migrating from village to cities. The educated and talented people of the cities are migrating abroad in search of jobs. Their talent is being utilized in foreign countries. We have to take care about it and we have to stop it.

Sir, the Government has also taken some steps to solve the problem of unemployment, but the capacity of providing employment is inadequate in proportion to the unemployment. The official figures show that there has been an increase in unemployment by two and half per cent in the country against which only two per cent of employment opportunities have been created. The Government must have taken into account the progress made in the States while taking steps for removing unemployment in the country. This is also the reason for aggravating the situation of regional imbalance in the country. It is quite discernible. According to the Economic Advisory Council, there has been a two per cent annual increase in employment opportunities during the last decade as against two and half per cent increase in unemployment in the country. This is despite the fact that Article 41 of the constitution makes it incumbent upon the Government to take effective steps within the limits of its economic capacity to provide right to work all its citizens. Thus, the constitution has made it obligatory on the part of the State to give employment to all its citizens so that unemployment could be removed from the country. Article 39 provides that the State shall direct its policy towards ensuring that all its citizens, men and women, have equal right to an adequate means of livelihood. Article 43 directs that the State shall endeavour to secure, by suitable legislation or economic organisation or in any other way, to all workers, agricultural, industrial or otherwise, work, a living wage, conditions of work ensuring a decent standard of life and full enjoyment of leisure and social and cultural opportunities.

Sir, the Government is indifferent towards the Directive Principles of the Constitution which direct the State to provide equal employment opportunities to all. It has not followed these directives. So I think, it is necessary to make it obligatory on the part of the Government to follow the directives of the Constitution so that it may take steps for removing unemployment in the country.

Sir, this sort of discussion for granting

right to work to all is not taking for the first time. In 1948, the International Labour Organisation had endorsed the Philadelphia declarations in which a call was given to provide full-time employment and better life standard to all people in the world. The world-wide Human Rights declaration passed by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948 stipulates that everybody has a right to make a free choice of his employment and a right to choose a congenial and just condition of employment and seek protection against unemployment. It is very unfortunate that we call ourselves a welfare state and we have admitted it in our constitution also. The countries on whose footsteps we made a resolve to make our country a welfare state have granted right to work to their citizens. All these talks, whether it is the case of equality of opportunities, right to wages for a livelihood or providing a better life-standard become meaningless when a person does not get reasonable opportunity of employment for himself. Every citizen of the country should be provided a job according to his needs. All this is possible only when a citizen has work and employment opportunities in his country.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in this modern world of unemployment or quasi-unemployment perhaps there is not a single country where it is not binding for the Government to create adequate employment opportunities. This is the duty of a welfare state to provide jobs to all its citizens and to boost production, trade and vocation.

In the Socialist Countries, citizens have a right to employment. In other words they have a right to get remuneration for the quality and quantity of the work they perform. Right to employment has been provided in the constitutions of Russia, China, Poland, Hungary, Romania, Yugoslavia, Mongolia, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia etc. to their citizens. In principle, their citizens have been granted equal life standard which is free from the fear of unemployment and guarantee of reasonable wages.

Sir, youth are found indulging in anti-

[Sh. Astbhuj Prasad Shukla]

social acts in the wake of terrorism, whether it is in Punjab or Jammu and Kashmir. This is a matter of great concern for the country. So, the Government should enact stringent laws for the removal or unemployment in the country. If the frustration and despair prevailing among the youth converts into resentment in future, the history of this country will take a different turn. A handful of people belonging to affluent families are holding the entire capital of the country. In the circumstances, it would be unfortunate of the country if the youths take to weapons due to nonavailability of jobs to them.

I, therefore, would like to urge the whole House to pass this Bill which provides guarantee of employment to all.

[*English*]

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA (Kottayam): Sir, I am supporting the spirit of this Bill. In this Bill there are certain provisions which I cannot accept.

As it is a Private Members' Bill. I do not want to go into each and every clause of the Bill. But Clause 4 says:

" Every citizen who has secured a job shall not involve himself in any activity other than his employment resulting in financial or other gains. "

Then Clause 8 says:

" Any person violating the provisions of Section 4 shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or with fine not exceeding rupees ten thousand or with both. "

We cannot accept Section 4 (2). But the spirit of this Bill is well accepted. The galloping unemployment is a serious problem which our generation is facing. The problem of unemployment has assumed a very acute dimension and threatens to become larger and more serious one. In coming years. I

quote from the Report of the Committee on Unemployment, 1973, Department of Labour and Employment. It says:

" Because of the human sufferings involved and the sense of frustration and the tension which it breeds, unemployment is pregnant with the potential danger of growing law and order problem and engendering social and political unrest and other concomitant problems."

As my previous speaker very well pointed out, terrorism in certain parts of the country is increasing because of the serious situation arising out of the unemployment problem. This is one of the major reasons for unrest, for example, in Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir, in Assam and North-Eastern States. The young people who are seeking jobs, when they do not get adequate opportunities for job, they take to weapons and create law and order problem. Now this is becoming a social problem. If we carefully analyse the problems of Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Assam and also the North-Eastern States, we can come to the conclusion that the main reason for this is the unemployment problem.

We have to solve this problem. And there is no magic wand with anybody to solve this problem. The rural labour force suffer a very severe under-employment problem as also acute poverty. They are suffering a lot because of the seasonal work. Moreover, the population is increasing. There is no measure for controlling the population. This way India is going to be the number one country in the world in terms of population. If you go into the statistics you will be able to see that the number of Job-seekers are increasing every year. The statistical figures show that unemployment was 0.75 millions in the First Plan, 1.56 millions in the Second Plan, 2.47 millions in the Third Plan, 8.15 millions in the Fourth Plan, 13.41 millions in the Fifth Plan, 23.91 millions in the Sixth Plan and 32.77 millions in the Seventh Plan. From this, we can come to the conclusion that there are a number of people who have registered

their names in the Employment Exchanges. Also, they are increasing day by day. In 1981, as per the statistics, 430 lakhs of people have registered in the Employment Exchanges. This is a very serious problem to which the Government has to pay more attention.

Sir, there are lot of employment guarantee programmes but in effect, these programmes are not helping the poor and the unemployed youth of our country. We are facing now the problem of educated unemployed as well as uneducated unemployed. And the task of providing work to the landless labourers in the third world seems very difficult. There are lot of reasons for that. The number of landless labourers is very huge and as they are illiterate and unskilled providing work to them has become very difficult in our country. Also the low rate of absorption in the industries and in agriculture are the other reasons which is affecting the rural population very badly. Small and cottage industries and development of backward areas should be encouraged to check the influx of population from rural areas to urban areas. Now-a-days, we see that more people are coming from the rural areas to the urban areas. They are coming to seek jobs. We can check this influx only by providing more employment opportunities in the rural areas, especially in the backward areas. In this context, we have to think about the functioning of the Employment Exchanges.

I am very sorry to say that the functioning of the Employment Exchanges is very bad. The picture presented by the National Employment Service which has a network of 851 Employment Exchanges is worse and dismal. It is important to note that the Employment Exchanges Act makes it obligatory on the part of the employers to notify the vacancies occurring in their establishments. This is an obligatory one. But the employers are not reporting the vacancies. If an employer is not reporting the vacancies arising in their firm, there is a provision to prosecute them. But we never heard of any such prosecution. If we carefully observe the functioning of the Employment Exchanges it is highly

dismal. So my request to the Government is to take a serious note of this and take urgent measures for the effective functioning of the Employment Exchanges. In the rural areas, the unemployed youth cannot even register their names in the Employment Exchanges. Once they register, they have to go for re-registering but there are no proper facilities for registering their names. We can see that there are lot of vacancies in Central, State as well as in quasi-Government Services.

16.00 hrs.

For the Central and quasi-Government services also you see a lot of educated unemployed youth are seeking jobs. But this ban is not being lifted. This is cruel because the ban on employment is creating utter confusion and it is painful as well. So my request to the Government is to lift the ban on employment, so that the vacancies can be filled up as early as possible.

The retirement age must be reduced to fifty years. Millions of youth of this country are seeking jobs. To enable them to get Government jobs, the retirement age can be reduced to fifty years. In Government sectors such as Railways there are a lot of vacancies. But due to computerization in the Railway as well as in the Postal Department, the number of vacancies are coming down. I am not totally against computerization. Computerisation is needed wherever it is badly required; but not in all sectors. A lot of employment potential can be seen in Railways and Postal Departments. We are rich in manpower also. If we introduce computers in these employment potentials areas, where will the youth go and how will they get jobs? So my suggestion is that computerization must be in selective areas, so that the youth of this country will get employment opportunities in Government sectors like Railways and Postal Departments.

In the Directive Principles of our Constitution, it is mentioned that the right to employment is given to all. In Kerala and West Bengal, if the State Government is not able to provide jobs, it is giving unemployment

[Sh. Ramesh Chennithala]

dole amounting to Rs. 50; now it is raised to Rs. 60. It is only a small amount; but it is highly helpful for the employed youth. They can go and search jobs with this small amount of money. This is a relief to them. So my request to the Government is that this unemployment dole must be given to the seekers.

There are a lot of self-employment programmes. For example, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana is one of the major programme which is going on in the country. A concurrent evaluation of this programme must be done to know whether these programmes are reaching the poor people. The idea behind Jawahar Rozgar Yojana is good. It is welcomed by all the people. The aim behind this programme is to alleviate unemployment and create more employment opportunities in the rural areas. But unfortunately the amount which is earmarked for this purpose is not going to the real beneficiaries because middlemen are taking advantage of this. So, an overall evaluation of the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana must be done.

For the educated unemployment youth Rs. 25000 is given as loan from the Nationalised Banks. But unfortunately this programme is not being carried out properly. Firstly the banks are hesitating to clear these loans. Secondly even when the educated unemployed youth prepare some scheme they cannot plan the project properly and implement it because of lack of knowledge. Moreover, banks are not at all cooperative in their venture. There are a number of self-employment guarantee programme which are going on today; they must be evaluated and the mistakes and faults should be identified and rectified as early as possible.

Now, let me say something about the IRDP programme in the rural areas. People who are below the poverty line are getting assistance from the IRDP programme. But this programme needs a careful study; and evaluation is also necessary. When we think of bringing up the people who below the poverty line, we have to carefully watch this

programme. Figures are all right, but if you go into the truth, we will find that this programme is not properly implemented. So, concurrent evaluation must be there; we have also to identify as to what are the faults involved in this programme so that the poor, the downtrodden and those who are below the poverty line will get assistance.

Another point which I want to make is about the postal orders. There are advertisements in the newspapers offering employment and in those advertisements, they say that postal orders for such and such rupees should be attached to the application. My humble suggestion is that it is necessary to abolish the system of attaching the postal orders with the application forms.

Regarding sick industries I would say that when we discuss the unemployment problem, we must also take care of the people who are retrenched because of the sickness of the industries. The rehabilitation of the employees retrenched from the sick industries is also a very serious one.

Industrial growth centres in the industrially backward areas and in the under-developed areas are also necessary. Information like how infrastructure for industrial development can be created and how new industries can be set up, etc. can be provided by these industrial growth centres.

Finally, I would urge upon the Government to increase the allocation for employment programmes. Increasing the allocation for the employment programmes would help create more employment opportunities in our country.

[*Translation*]

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN (Sasaram):
Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to speak in support of the Employment Guarantee Bill that has been brought forward by the hon. Member, Shri Bhogendra Jha. The number of unemployed people is increasing rapidly day-by-day in the country. It is mainly due to wrong policies of the Government.

Russia got independence in 1917 and unemployment was totally eliminated from the country by 1930. It is evident from the above as to how that country could overcome the crisis so quickly. The people of our country often talk of landing on the moon and many countries have already landed there. But in our country, about 40 to 50 per cent people live below the poverty line. What could be more ridiculous a situation than this?

When our country achieved independence 44 to 45 years back, unemployment existed that time also. Since then this problem went on aggravating. There has been rapid industrialisation in the country over the years, but it took place at the upper level only. We should have followed Gandhian policies and encouraged small scale and cottage industries so that unemployment could have been eradicated. Unless cottage and small scale industries are encouraged in such a large country, unemployment can not be eradicated.

Besides, we see that terrorist activities are increasing in this country. If we look at our Budget, we will find that Rs. 70 to 80 crore have been allocated for the development of Jammu and Kashmir, but only a handful of people have been benefited by this expenditure. The Government did not set up any industry, there. That is why the number of terrorists is increasing day by day in the Kashmir-valley.

The Government wants that there should be development, but their intentions are not good. Had the intentions of the Government been good, there would not have been such widespread unemployment. I would, therefore, like to request the Government to encourage small scale and cottage industries in the country. Then only unemployment can be eradicated. The most important thing is that intentions of the Government should be good. In this country, only a handful of people get high positions. For instance, when recruitment is made in Mithila region in Bihar, people belonging only to a particular community get appointments to various posts.

One more peculiar situation exists there. These people draw the salary, but their work is done by others. I have, therefore, said that the intentions of the Government should be good.

Without taking much time of the House, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to certain issues. If the Government really wants to eradicate unemployment, it will have to encourage small scale and cottage industries. The Government should also function with a good intentions so that maximum people could be provided employment.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY (Alipurduars): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the problem of unemployment has become the problem for the whole country. Neither I nor the Government know as to how to resolve this problem. The Government is being criticised on this issue in many ways, but nobody bothers to find out a solution to it. I want that we should rise above party lines and be united to resolve this problem.

Our country has been divided into districts and blocks. The Government knows it well as to what crops are produced in various blocks and regions. The Government is also aware of the deficiency of various kinds viz. deficiency of food, clothes or other commodities in various regions. They cannot be self-sufficient in any respect. If the Government has good intentions, it should find out the position in regard to availability of foodgrains, other commodities, the number of educated and uneducated boys and girls and the work in which they could be engaged, their difficulties, whether there are any schools or the colleges, whether there is any possibility for development of fisheries, in respect of each and every block. If the Government can work out all these details, solution to unemployment problem would not take much time. Our countrymen want work and not alms.

One more crisis has been gaining ground

[Sh. Pius Tirkey]

in the country. That is rampant corruption in the Government offices. We very often say that the police are corrupt from top to bottom. One of its reasons is that high officials amass abundant wealth through corrupt practices before they reach the age of superannuation due to the apprehension that there is no guarantee that their children would get employment. They want to have funds for the expenses of marriage of their daughters. I do not say that it is applicable to all Government employees, but this tendency is growing day by day. When an employee does so, others also follow suit. I want the Government to take measures to stop it.

Besides, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to yet another issue. Prostitution is increasing day by day in the country. When they have no other means, women take recourse to flesh trade as a means of their livelihood. We talk of women's respect every day, but do not take any steps to remove their plight. You can see such corrupt practices in Delhi also at several places. The affluent, the corrupt people make the merriment at these places and the poor women become their victims for two square meals. I want to know from the Government whether they know it or not? All these women are our sisters and are the honour of the country. Such practices must be stopped. They are capable of rendering other services for the country's cause. Our respected mothers and sisters are being disgraced. They are starving. They have no job. Take the case of Delhi. They live in jhuggi clusters and work in the houses of affluent people. These slum dwellers live in the places which are not even suitable for animals. They are compelled to live there. They live in unhygienic surroundings and live on food thrown away by big hotels, it will spread epidemic and it is the affluent people who will die of these diseases, because they do not have the resistance power which the poor people possess. The big schemes will no doubt, increase employment opportunities. There will be big power houses. Let me know as to for whom all these major projects are being

undertaken. Every child of our country who is born on this soil, recites that India belongs to him. But it is our misfortune that we are not able to provide him even food and shelter.

I, therefore, submit that houses can be built in every block. When the Government prepares so many plans for the development of Delhi, why can it not do so for the villages in the country. Houses must be built there also and they should be provided all facilities viz. electricity, drinking water etc. All schemes of the Government should be launched at the village level so that the people of the villages may understand that the scheme is meant for them. These are their own schemes. It is they who will implement these schemes. Now-a-days it can be seen that even for a petty work like construction of a drainage which earlier the villagers used to do unitedly. Now they write letters to the Block Officer and the amount is paid to them after it is passed by higher authorities.

What are they doing under the self-employment scheme, there is also the middlemen, who usurp the funds granted for the work. A watch should be kept on it also and it should be enquired whether the money is being utilised properly or not, whether he knows the work or not for which this money is being taken or he wants to run away with the money taken from the Government. All these things should be kept in mind.

The problem of unemployment is increasing day by day; attention should be paid towards it also. They should be given some vocational training so that they may get employment later on. Therefore, I request the government as well as this House that we should rise above the party line and find a solution to this problem and find out ways to combat this problem. These days the people are compelled to sell their children even to satisfy their hunger, so some attention should be paid towards it also. If one goes through the records, such incidents can be found in abundance.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the situation is very bad. Therefore, I request that keeping

aside the criticism, everybody should think to find out its solution and go on altering the Government. At every level be it a Panchayat, Block, District, M.L.A. or M.P., attempts should be made to solve the problem. A Parliamentary Committee should be constituted to find out the ways and means to solve this problem.

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, everybody is supporting this Bill and every Party has included it in its manifesto, but nobody is abiding by it. Therefore, at first, I would like to know, as my friend has also said, what is the intention of the Government since we are watching this thing for the last 42 years. Mahatma Gandhiji has also said, and people were assured before independence that the right to employment to the youths would be included in the Constitution as the fundamental rights. Unless this right is added to the fundamental rights and the Government owns its responsibility, there will be no use of it. Therefore, I want to say that the Government should go for the amendment in the Constitution and it should be included in the fundamental rights. The Government should declare here that all this would be done. For the last 42 years we have been listening to the slogans of removal of poverty and employment to the youths, but what has been the condition of the country in the last 42 years. We have read in Economics in 9th and 10th class that "India is a rich country, but its inhabitants are poor". It means that our country is prosperous, we have food, water, six types of seasons and hands to work, but all these things are not utilised properly and that is why we are unable to give work to the people.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, so my first request is that if the Government is honest, it should make a declaration here in this regard, otherwise I feel that it will give some assurance and ask the concerned Member to withdraw this Bill and this Bill will be talked out. It should not be talked out and we should reach at some conclusion. The Government should give some specific assurance that it

would include the right to employment in the fundamental rights.

Sir, secondly, I suggest that the Five year plans should mainly be employment oriented. Till now the Five year plans were based on mass production by big industries and machines. According to the Gandhian Economy, unless we make every village self reliant, unless we go for de-centralization of economy, we will not be able to achieve that goal. Therefore, the decentralization of economy is a must and there should be mass production by the masses. We cannot choose the way adopted by America, where production is on a large scale by big machines. It can be successful in America, but not in our country due to unemployment problem and over population in our country. So we will have to take up the policy of mass production by the masses, but this production will not be based on the machines but on the small scale industries, cottage industries and village industries. If we adopt these policies, only then the villages can be self reliant. Therefore, I say that this goal can not be achieved by bringing the Bill, it can be achieved through increasing cottage and small scale industries and decentralization of economy. Our policies and five year plans should be employment oriented. Today we talk about employment, but are unable to provide jobs to the youths. Therefore, we will have to start small scale projects to increase employment opportunities and the Bank loans and other facilities should be arranged for them. This is a very serious problem. I know that practically these problems cannot be solved altogether. It will have to be solved in a phased manner. It will have to be divided into several parts and sub-parts. For it we will have to give top priority to the *ANTYDAYA PROGRAMME* of Jai Prakash Narainji. We will have to find out that who are the poorest in the villages. We would also ensure as to how employment can be arranged for the them. How we can provide employment for the women, Schedule Castes and Schedule Tribes, backward classes and economically poor? You can see that during the last 40 years India has been divided into two parts - the one is India and the other is Bharat. The

[Sh. Madan Lal Khurana]

Indian is one whose son becomes an I.A.S. officer after completing his education or becomes a commander in the army. The 'son of Bharat' is one whose son becomes a police constable, a clerk or a peon.

Therefore, at first we will have to pay attention towards the backward, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled tribes and the persons living below the poverty line. I am afraid that this proposal may not come on a non-official day and may not be talked out and taken back. I would like to state that on this occasion the Government should make some specific declaration through this proposal, about its planning regarding providing employment guarantee and only then a detailed discussion on this issue can be useful. I would like to say only this much. Thank you, for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[*English*]

GOVIND CHANDRA MUNDA
(Keonjhar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I may be permitted to speak in Oriya.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mr. Munda, have you made necessary arrangement. Have you informed that you want to speak in Oriya?

[*Translation*]

***SHRI GOVIND CHANDRA MUNDA:**
Yes, Sir, Interpretation arrangement has been made. Interpreter is sitting in the booth.

Mr. Deputy Sepeaker, Sir, The Employment Guarantee Bill has been moved by the Hon'ble Member, Shri Bhogendra Jha. Many Hon'ble Members have expressed their views on this Bill. India is a vast country. Now it is facing a number of problems. The unemployment problem is one of them. While participating in the discussion several Hon'ble Members stressed the need to tackle this grave problem. When this Bill was moved in

this House I could not decide whether I should speak or not. I was thinking in that line only because of the fact that no-body has been able to resolve this great problem. There is wide difference between what we say and what we do. We always promise our people that the problem of unemployment will be tackled with on priority. But actually what happened, the problem is mounting day by day. That is why I did not want to speak on this Bill. Then I thought I shall be failing in my duty if I do not record my view on this vital issue.

Sir, I came from a tribal area of Orissa. I am a tribal Member. You know Sir, how acute is the problem of unemployment in India. You also know the condition of the people in Orissa. When the problem like this is causing concern for everybody in India, you can imagine how precarious it is in my district, Keonjhar which is very much undeveloped. You can also imagine the plight of the tribal people living there. They are moving from pillar to post for a job. Therefore, I think, Shri Jha for bringing this Bill and through that Bill giving me the opportunity to express my views.

Sir, the Bill seeks to provide employment guarantee to every citizen of India. I understand the noble intention of Shri Jha. But, I am sorry the objective of the Bill will not be achieved. The present financial situation of the country is not favourable for fulfilling such vast objectives. In fact, no Govt. will be able to provide employment guarantee. The Bill is just like "empty vessel sound much". This is so, because the planning process in India is defective. If you study the geography of India, you will find different climatic condition at different region different kind of people having different culture, speaking different languages are living in this country. Every area of every state is not alike. If the land in a particular area is fertile, the land at some other place of the same State is not the same. The per hectre yield of the agricultural land differs from place to place. There is not a single state in India where the entire

*Translation of the speech originally delivered in Oriya.

land is fertile. That is the reason why the farmers in every state do not get equal yield of food grain per hectare. If the farmers a particular State are rich their brothers in several other States are poor and leading miserable lives. They are passing their days without job for several months as they only grow one crop throughout the year. That is why the number of unemployed persons increase in those States. In such circumstances the State Governments are not able to provide employment to those people. Steps were taken to generate additional employment after independence. Steps were taken for the development of agriculture and industry. Targets were fixed in every Five Year Plans to create jobs for the people, but every Five Years Plans leaves behind heavy backlog of unemployment. This is the tragedy. Nobody can give employment guarantee to every people. Take the case of Govt. services. If a boy goes for a job, the employer or the persons help him in getting the job demand 30 to 40 thousands. The children of the farmers are so poor that they cannot give such a huge amount of bribe to get the job. The farmers even sell their land to educate their children. When they should get the job they do not get as they are not in a position to pay bribe. The corruption is rampant everywhere. So, employment guarantee is not possible in India. It will continue to pose problem in the State like Orissa.

Sir, unemployment problem is not only mounting in India, it is also prevailing in the country like China. It may not be as great in those countries as it is in India. China and several other country could regulate this further growth and brought down unemployment rate by making rapid progress in Agricultural and Industrial sector. In India the pace of progress was very slow. It could not generate employment at the rate the population increased. Due to lack of efforts to remove regional imbalances the problem of unemployment increased in the backward State like Orissa.

As I had told at the beginning of my speech, I came from a tribal district, i.e. Keonjhar. There our people are facing prob-

lems at every sphere. But, unemployment is their main problem. They are tribal and backward people. Who will provide them with employment? We have got iron ore, Manganese and several other mines. A large number of Industries have come up in their land, but they are unemployed. Now modernisation slogan is given at every sector. Modern mining methods and mechanisation are being introduced in the mines. These systems are creating unemployment. My people are not well trained in the modern mechanism. So, how can they be absorbed in the mines. That is the tragedy. A number of medium and large scale projects have been set up in my district but the local people are not found suitable for the high grade jobs as they are not technically highly qualified. So technical and vocational education should be given top priority. Such institutions should be set up in those areas so that the students coming out from those institutions will get job in their locality. I am saying so because our present education system is defective and needs change.

During my last election tour and also during my visit to my area at different times I found that the unemployed youths are sitting idle in every village. Some of them are lazy. They do not want to do any work other than Govt. job which is not possible. The attitude of many educated youths has been changed. They feel jealous of others. Some people pull others legs. If one person is advanced others are not willing to tolerate him. The combine effect of all these factors lead to increasing unemployment and it is mounting everyday.

Sir, I have written my speech which I shall read if you permit me. But I have already clearly expressed my views. Then there is no need of reading the speech. I said everything from the core of my heart. I do not say wrong things. I am a tribal man and I am innocent. I always speak truth. I hope the entire House will understand my feeling and excuse me if I have not assessed correctly the real condition prevailing in the village. I am really very glad that I could draw the attention of the House to the difficulties of my

[Sh. Govind Chandra Munda]

people. Lastly I thank you very much for the opportunity given to me to participate in the Bill and with these words I conclude my speech.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer):

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I heartily welcome the Employment Guarantee Bill moved by Shri Bhogendra Jha. This Bill has three or four characteristics. The Government has been made a partner in it. It is the duty of the Government to provide employment to all those who are capable. If a person gets a job and also indulge in other works and snatches the rights of others. There is a provision in the Bill to check the centralization of employment. It would also be ensured whether he is not accumulating lakhs of rupees by corrupt means, by dishonesty or by some other unfair means. There is provision regarding imposing a limits over the means. There is the provision of time bound promotions in it. These days one more thing can be seen that in Employment Exchange a number of people have got their names registered, but actually they are working somewhere else and do not inform the Employment Exchanges of the real position, because they are in search of better employment. They do not withdraw their names from the Employment Exchanges and thus they snatch the rights of others by keeping their names alive on the register of Employment Exchange. There should be a provision that one who has got a job anywhere cannot get his name registered with the Employment Exchanges.

The fourth provision is that it is the duty of the State to provide facilities for self employment. If someone has been able to get a job and wants to start his own business under the 'self employment scheme'. It should be the duty of the State to provide facilities and resources for him. There is the provision of punishment for a person who is doing more than one job or manages to arrange more means. In this way I understand that the Bill moved by Shri Bhogendra Jha is comprehensive.

Sir, I would like to request the Government through you that this Bill must be accepted. Today the unemployment has become a national problem. Unemployment and joblessness in a frightening problem. Hunger can make a man devil and that is why it is said that an empty mind is a devil's workshop. I would like to draw the attention of the Government through you to the fact that after independence, those who held the reins of power, whether they belonged to the rulers' side or the opposition, tried to give the attractive slogans for the removal of poverty, unemployment, and works for each hand and water for every field, but this problem continued to aggravate day by day.

Sir, there is an episode in Ramayana when Sursa went to test the strength of Hanumana, Tulsidas writes:

'Jas Jas Sursa Badana Badhava,
Taasu Doon Kapi Roop Dekhawa.'

Hanuman increased his size manifold and Sursa's mouth remained small. Similarly, unemployment has increased manifold since we made efforts to remove unemployment. The main reason of unemployment is industrialisation, mechanisation, computerisation, lack of irrigation facilities and distortion of facts.

Sir, our education policy has been primarily responsible for unemployment in the country. Our means of employment are inadequate because of the rapid increase in the population. Because of the population explosion more hands need work whereas we are not able to provide them work. I would conclude in another two minutes. I would like to submit here that in ancient times our villages were self-reliant units and nobody was jobless there. There was dignity of labour. I want that a similar scheme should be revived in villages. Efforts should be made so that the man in the village is provided work in the village itself and he has not to run to the cities in search of a job.

Sir, whatever education we are provid-

ing is only bookish knowledge. We should provide them such education which would encourage self employment besides creating interest in dignity of labour. They should work with their own hands and be not ashamed of doing manual labour. If this spirit is inculcated in our youth, everyone will not run for white collar jobs. Therefore, necessary changes must be made in our education policy. Besides, academic knowledge, vocational, employment oriented and practical knowledge must also be imparted so that the students could stand on their own feet. Banks should give facilities to the people either through loan or any other means. Proper enquiry must be made that the person who has been sanctioned loan is not misusing it. It should be ensured that the funds are utilised in the best possible manner. The small scale and cottage industries must be encouraged. The means of irrigation must also be developed. There is lot of barren land in the villages and there are no means of irrigation. If irrigation facilities are provided, the condition of villages would become better. The workers would not run from villages to cities in search of jobs. Therefore, Sir, agro-based industries must be set up. More facilities of irrigation should be developed and spirit of self-employment must be encouraged. The 'Antyoday' scheme should be given priority.

Sir, I think you for providing me an opportunity to speak and with this I conclude.

*SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA (Kolar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are discussing a very important Bill moved by Shri Bhogendra Jha. I welcome this Bill and say a few words. Many Hon'ble Members who spoke before me appreciated the objectives of the Bill but we have to see how far they are practicable. Our late lamented leader, Shri Rajiv Gandhi had asked all the States and Union territories to clear the backlog when he was the Prime Minister. Regarding reservation of seats to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes the back-log has not been cleared till today. Even 25% of the backlog has not been

cleared.. The administrators bureaucrats are responsible for not clearing the backlog. They do not have any sympathy towards Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other backward communities. I, therefore, urge upon the Government of India to take concrete steps to clear the backlog without any further delay.

The number of unemployed persons in the country is increasing day by day. The educated unemployed youths are not able to get any jobs. They are not able to get food and clothing. Their future is gloomy. Hence, Government should consider this matter seriously and find out a permanent solution to this burning problem of youths.

There are crores of youths who have passed matriculation. There are lakhs of degree holders. Even P.hd. holders are not getting jobs these days. The Government has to set up suitable industries to utilise the talents of these educated youths. These industries should be set up preferably in the rural areas. Our Hon'ble Prime Minister has a vast experience of rural life. He knows the difficulties of poor farmers of this country. I am sure that he will take steps to alleviate the sufferings of these farmers.

While speaking on this Bill I am reminded of some injustice that is going on in the Union Public Service Commission. Our society has a federal structure and all persons should get equal opportunities. But this is not happening in the UPSC. This factor also adds to the unemployment problem. Last year about 900 candidates have been selected for various posts. Among them about 600 candidates are from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Only 300 candidates were selected from the rest of the country. Especially from South India representation is meagre. Are there no intelligent and efficient candidates in southern states? If you conduct proper examinations then only you will come to know about this. There are efficient candidates in Southern States but they are not being selected by the UPSC. Their examina-

[Sh. K.H. Muniyappa]

tion system is also faulty. The tools and techniques of the UPSC examinations lack validity, reliability and consistency. Immediate measures have to be taken to rectify this and to do justice to all States. Whether it is IAS Or IPS proper representation should be given to all States without any favour to any State.

16.46 hrs.

[SHRI P.M. SAYEED *in the Chair*]

The administrators and bureaucrats call for the posts and they announce the details of reservations. But this will remain in black and white only. Reserved vacancies are not filled properly. Sometimes these reserved posts remain vacant for several years. The centre should see that these reserved posts are filled without any delay.

Population explosion is a very important factor which adds misery to the unemployed persons. Our plans and programmes would be worthless if family planning programme are not implemented.

China was facing several problems three decades ago. But now they have achieved progress in various fields. This is mainly because of the success in implementing the family planning programmes.

About 75% of the youths in the country are unemployed. If proper arrangements are not made to employ these youths then there will be revolution in the country. Now 8th Five Year Plan is going to commence. What provision is there in this plan to accommodate the unemployed youths. How many lakhs of youths are going to get jobs? We have to create more and more job opportunities in the five year plans. This is very essential not only to engage the talented youths but also for the progress of the country.

Once again I appeal to our hon. Prime Minister to protect the unemployed youths

by creating jobs to them. I also urge upon the centre to see that equal representation is giving to all States without any partiality.

Sir, I thank you for allowing me to express my views on the problem of unemployment and with these words I conclude my speech.

[*English*]

SHRI PRATAP SINGH (Banka): Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is no gainsaying about the importance of this Bill introduced by Shri Bhogendra Jha. I am quite sure that each Member in this House, from whichever Party he belongs to, would rise and support this particular Bill.

There is no doubt that at this present juncture in our nation's history, we are being stressed with a massive unemployment and simultaneously under-employment problem, which is increasing at every step by our burgeoning human population, which is going up day by day. We cannot merely attack this problem from one direction and thinking of only providing jobs or opportunities for self-employment. But nevertheless, our prime target is really to find as to how to give an opportunity to our young men, who have been disillusioned, to make a living and sustain themselves in their families with a certain amount of dignity.

In this connection, I feel that action should be to promote those kinds of work in industry and also in our planning which can utilise maximum number of unskilled labour. We should view this matter of planning and development also with a view to find employment for those people who are uneducated and are not really skilled in any particular sphere of activity because they are the most destitutes and they are the most needy in finding opportunity of employment. At the same time, I feel that we should not resort to computerization indiscriminately where it not really going to be absolutely necessary. I can understand in certain spheres of activity like for instance on the question of our defence assessment, even of our needs and require-

ments, computerization is a must. There are many other places where it is necessary to have it. But we should not feel that this is the age of computerization and we must demand computerization and automation in every sphere of industrial activity or every kind of activity, without thinking. We must, at the same time, promote that type of infrastructure which is going to create opportunities of self-employment for the educated as well as those who are not. In this regard, it is obvious that we require to emphasise rapid growth in our transport system, in our power generation in water supply and irrigation.

It is understood by every Member of this House, every party which is represented here and our people outside that no Government can hope to cater by providing jobs to each man and woman. But it can make a sincere effort to create a climate where it is possible for them to expect to be able to employ themselves and find work through their own initiative and volition. So I feel that any amount of emphasis they do pay on this kind of work is not going to be wasted and would be perhaps a worthwhile thing to consider. Most of my colleagues have adequately dealt with most of the issues relating to this subject. I do not wish to take much time of the House by repeating all the things which have been said before me.

Therefore, once again, I support this Bill, introduced by Shri Bhogendra Jha. I am sure, the Government would find it proper to do what it can to see that these problems can be alleviated.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[*Translation*]

*SHRI SRIBALLAVE PANIGRAHI (Deogarh): Mr. Chairman, I rise to speak a few words on the Employment Guarantee Bill moved in this House by Hon. Member, Shri Bhogendra Jha.

[*English*]

AN HON. MEMBER: In which language you are speaking? Is it Oriya?

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Let me do justice to my mother tongue.

AN HON. MEMBER: You have to do justice to us also.

[*Translation*]

SHRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Sir, Oriya is a developed language. Tamil is the oldest language of all. After that it is Oriya. It is an ancient language and at the same time it is a developed language. I would like to deliver my speech in that language which is my mother tongue.

Sir, I extend my moral support to the Bill of Shri Bhogendra Jha which is being discussed in the House. An identical resolution was moved in this House during the last session and we had fullfledged discussion on that resolution. However, the growing unemployment is a very grave problem today. Our's is not the only country which has been confronting this grave problem it is equally grave in several other developed as well as underdeveloped countries in the world. Of course India is a developing nation and that is why we feel that the problem of unemployment is very acute in our country. It cannot be said that unemployment is very acute in our country. It cannot be said that unemployment is totally absent in the country like America and Sweden where the per capita income is much more than what we have in India. However it is the prime duty of every civilized developed, developing or socialistic country to provide some kind of employment to every citizen so as to enable him to live with dignity. But we have to decide whether the Bill of Shri Jha can be adopted in the way it has been brought forward by the Hon'ble Member in this House. It is at all implementable in the present set up of our country? Nobody can say that it can be imple-

*Translation of speech originally delivered in Oriya.

[Sh. Ballav Panigrahi]

mented. What happened to the promise of "Right to Work", of the Janata Dal. Could they implement it. The Janata Dal had promised the people to amend the Constitution of India and to incorporate therein "Right to work" as the "Fundamental Right" of. They included it in their election manifesto and with this promise they came to power. Raising slogan is one thing and implementing it is another thing. One should not go by such impossible and false promises. But nobody should carry the impression that I undermine unemployment problem. I minimised the importance of the Bill. The Unemployment is a very grave problem. We have the Directives of State Policy which are foundation of our Constitution, which can be called the soul of the Constitution. The fundamental rights and other important provisions are enshrined in another chapter of the Constitution where it is mentioned clearly about the direction we should follow while running the administration of the country. Sir, everyone of us is very much concerned for the growing unemployment in this country. The Govt. is very much concerned for this grave problem. Steps are being taken to tackle this problem. New employment is being generated. 900 millions additional man-days are being created. We are spending Rs. 2100/- Crores under different schemes under Jawahar Rojgar Yojana etc. to provide additional employment to our people. But on the other hand some self contradictory things are taking place. As you know Sir, the Govt. is aware of the growing problem of unemployment. Schemes have been drawn up to provide employment to the unemployment youths. At the same time the Govt. is also issuing notification to stop further employment. Restriction is made on creating additional employment. Even ban has been imposed on appointment against the vacant posts. This is so because the financial position of the country is very precarious. On the other hand we are expressing our concern for having failed to give suitable employment to the highly qualified youths. Sir, the situation has come to such a point that the M.A. degree holders are ready to work as the

loaders in the coal mines. Still then they are not selected for those posts. In the past such qualified youths were not considered suitable because they cannot do the hard work. They cannot work in the underground coal-mines. Do you know the basic qualification to be eligible for those posts? They should be LTI. Left Thumb impression. The persons from weaker section were only selected for these jobs in the past. Now the situation is different. The number of educated unemployed is increasing everyday. The M.A. degree holders are going to the Court of First Class Magistrate and giving affidavit saying that they are not educated. They want the jobs meant for person of LTI because they feel that once they get the job as LTI they can be considered for the clerical posts in future. So this is the fate of our M.A. degree holders, the educated youths.

Sir, what are the factors responsible for such growing unemployment? Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the nation had visualised the future of this great nation. So he had formulated his own philosophy, economical policy. The problem of unemployment would not have been so acute today had the Gandhian philosophy, Gandhian economic measures adopted after independence. Gandhian economic policies were not followed and so we are facing such crisis today. I carefully listened the speeches made by some of my learned friends here. I came to the conclusion that, had the Gandhian economic measures followed fully after independence we would not have been confronted with such a grave problem today. The Gandhian economic policy was based on "Self Sufficiency to be achieved through cottage industry like Charka etc". The freedom movement based on his policy created a new chapter in the world history of freedom movement. He gave the call to boycott the clothes which were imported from Buckingham or London. He told everybody to boycott imported clothes and to wear Indian made Khadi dresses. He launched Swadeshi movement. He could raise his voice against the powerful British empire, the empire where the sun was not setting. The stir intensified

by Mahatma Gandhi and crumbled the foundation of that great empire.

17.00 hrs.

Sir, it is a matter of great concern that our population has been increasing. We are not paying any importance on doing manual labour. We are not willing to work in the field. Ofcourse we should adopt the scientific method and new technology in our fields with the passing time. We would keep pace with on the scientific advancement. At the same time we should also do physical labour and we should establish proper coordination between the need to do physical work and the necessity to adopt new scientific technology. Otherwise we will be lagging behind several nations. While adopting our new technology we should think of utilisation of the large unemployed force with us. We have to find out some ways to absorb most of them in various fields. I would like to stress upon this only because we are facing grave problem of unemployment everywhere due to proper lack of proper and advanced planning. I cannot say that we should follow blindly. We should adopt our own policy keeping in view the present situation in the country. We should keep our financial crisis in mind and formulate a long term plan which will resolve this great problem to a large extent. We should accordingly generate unemployment for these large number of unemployed people. While participating in the discussion some Hon. Members expressed their views and said that the provision of employment guarantee to everybody is not possible. I do agree with them, but we should not feel disappointed, because there is a silver lining in the dark clouds. We are also getting some good signs. A few days ago a Commission was set up under the Chairmanship of Dr. G. Rangaswamy, the former Vice-Chancellor of Tamil Nadu Agriculture University and former adviser of the planning Commission. The Commission had detailed discussion of Indian Agriculture and finally came to the conclusion that there is a vast scope to absorb the large number of unemployed persons in Agriculture sector if we formulate effective plan. If Agriculture is

systematically developed the entire rural unemployed people of this country can be absorbed there by 2000 A.D. We can create 10 crores of jobs in the remaining 8 years of the current century. The Commission has said that the proper planning for the development of Agriculture will be able to remove poverty, it will remove rural unemployment problem. This has been highly appreciated by the former Union Agriculture Minister, Shri C. Subramanyam, who was also very efficient and able Agriculture Minister and at present he is the Governor of Maharashtra. He has welcomed the various recommendations made by the Commission. I would like to put it in the language of the Committee,

I quote,

By a shift to commercial Agriculture, agro Industry and agro exports India has the potential to achieve a minimum 4% growth rate in Agriculture, generate 100 million new jobs and increase agro based exports to atleast 40,000 crores per year within the decade." Unquote

"I am telling this as silver lining, because it will show light in the darkness. If we will go ahead in this way, we can achieve our objective of providing them employment. So, the agriculture sector in our country needs revolutionary change. This is possible if our newly educated youths change their attitude towards Govt. Service. If they make revolutionary change in their mind. That is the first necessity of our youth force. Then there is a need to make revolutionary change in their mind. If our youths say that they will work in the Govt. Offices after they complete their education, then nobody can help them. Nobody will be able to provide them job in India. It has not become possible in China. It could not become possible in USSR. Sir, you know, the present situation prevailing in USSR. The USSR is on the verge of collapse. I have already mentioned here about U.S.A.

Sir, the education system in our country needs change. Our education should not be linked with service. Jobs should be delinked

[Sh. Bailav Panigrahi]

from education. If we do so our new educated youths, the future of the nation will automatically change their attitude towards Govt. Service.

Then Sir, we have to do something to make the family planning programme successful. India has made tremendous progress in various fields during the last 4 decades despite several hurdles. The developed countries are jealous of India as it has achieved remarkable progress despite those hurdles. India has also occupied dignified position in the International spheres. But we cannot achieve more progress if our population growth is not regulated. The total population of India was 35 crores at the time of partition and now it has reached 85 crores and it is estimated that the population will cross 100 crores by 2000 A.D. So, the growing population is really a matter of great concern for all of us. We have to control population by effectively implementing family planning programmes. This is possible if the family planning norms are adopted by every eligible couple irrespective of caste and creed. For this there is a need to arrive at a common consensus by everybody. The religious and political leaders should sit together and arrive at a decision to make the family planning programme a great success. If we can control our population we can utilise the funds available with us for our youths to provide them employment of some kind or the other. Therefore the religious leaders should contribute their valuable time and arrive at consensus for the welfare of the mankind. Nobody should try to gain political capital out of it. In this connection I remember the role played by Late Shri Sanjay Gandhi. We have realised the relevance of the direction given and programmes drawn up by Late Sanjay Gandhi to resolve such national problems. He had to pay a heavy price for having advised the people to adopt family planning. A lot of people, a number of leaders and the political parties gave it a political colour and made political capital out of it. They misled the voters. Shri Sanjay Gandhi and Smt. Indira Gandhi had suffered

a lot on account of implementing such national programme. Now there is nobody who oppose the plantation programme. Everyone of us know and are convinced that we have to intensify plantation and forestry in order to bring ecological balance. We have to save the dwindling forest. We have to check the felling of trees and by intensifying plantation we have to restore our ecology. We have also to expedite literacy drive. The five point programmes of Late Sanjay Gandhi have thereof greater relevancy in today's context. We openly admit this fact irrespective of political parties. Therefore those five points should be our gospel, like the teachings of Bible if we have to tackle our national problems. I am saying this, because you adopt any measure, pass any number of legislations, allocate any amount of fund, we cannot achieve success in eradicating poverty so long the present rate of population growth is not checked and for this unanimous decision is very necessary. If political parties give political colour to my suggestions then there will never be any welfare and upliftment in this country. When we have to implement some programme some excess may be committed at certain places, stringent measures are to be taken if necessary. This is so, because we have to make the programme success in order to tackle the national problems which are being confronted by the nation. Therefore every political and religious leaders are to arrive at common consensus.

Sir, reference has been made several times in this House to migration of rural people to the urban areas. If want to check this large scale migration we have to change our administrative set up, we have to set up administrative offices at the block and Tehsil Head Quarters. We have to promote rural industries. We have to connect every village with roads and we have to create markets in the rural areas. Unless we do that people will continue to go to the urban areas, the towns and cities to earn their livelihood and also go to get better comfort. But it is not possible for everybody to get such comfort and it is not easy for all of them to earn their livelihood. So they will only add to the growth of slums.

Therefore, we have to develop the rural areas and generate employment for the rural people so that the large scale migration and the growth of urban population can be checked. I do not wish to prolong my speech. But I would like to refer to the reply given by the Hon. Minister, Shri Sagnma. The other day while replying to the discussion pertaining to such problem Shri Sagnma said that the Eight plan is being made employment oriented. Priority is to be given to generate additional employment in Eighth plan. New jobs will be created. A large number of people will be given employment in that plan period. So, we have to look into the problems of our surplus labour force. Provide them gainful employment. We have to formulate plan accordingly.

Lastly Sir, I am extending my moral support to this Bill. We have got an opportunity to discuss a very grave national problem of the country through this Bill. But, we know the fate of this Bill. It is not practically possible to implement the objective of the Bill. The mover of the Bill, Shri Bhogendra Jha is an experienced Member. He also knows it very well that employment guarantee cannot be made the fundamental right at the present situation of the nation even if the Hon. Member's party comes to power. The Janata Dal had formed the Govt. with the help of The Communist Party. Janata Dal crossed the 'Election Baitarani' with the help of this slogan which they had incorporated in their Election manifesto. But Janata Dal utterly failed. That does not mean that we will keep quiet and will not take steps in that direction. We have to take necessary steps to resolve unemployment problem. As you know Sir, during the time of last election I have seen the plight of our educated unemployed youths. The able, cleaver, efficient and energetic youths are moving in the villages without job. This is our national wastage. We have to utilise their talents and we have to give them some kind of employment.

Now take the case of land reform. We have to implement land reform measures expeditiously. Then only more number of rural people will get employment in the Agri-

cultural sector. Similarly we have to provide adequate irrigation facilities. There is a saying in Oriya which means - "Oh farmers brothers agriculture cannot prosper without irrigation". So you irrigate your land to get better yield. We have to increase areas under irrigation. In our country we get surplus rainfall at some places which cause devastated flood and resulting in a large scale damage of crops etc. On the other hand there are some areas where we get scanty rainfall which cause severe drought. Therefore there is a need to make a balanced growth of our agriculture in the country by providing adequate irrigation facilities on the unirrigated land and also by controlling flood where the people have been sustaining huge loss due to its occurrence almost every year.

Sir several Hon. learned Members have quoted some provisions from our Constitution and opined that it is practically not possible to implement the objectives of this Bill. The Hon. Mover of the Bill knows it very well. We passed several Bills in this House. We are not lacking in passing the Bills. But whether they are implemented after they are made Acts. Sir, the Family Court Amendment Bill was being discussed in the House about one and half hour before today. In course of the discussion of the Bill I came to know that the original Bill was passed and made an Act in 1984. But it is unfortunate that the Act has not been notified yet by the Govt. of Bihar which has been formed by Janata Dal with the support of the Party of the mover of the Bill. However the Bill has been amended and passed today. Therefore we should not proceed to pass a Bill which cannot be enforced. It is not proper to pass the Bill by raising over hands. That does not mean I am minimising the objective of the Bill. So, we should discuss the matter across the table. We will list the various measures one after another and will arrive at a consensus and see how the problems can be tackled with. If we go for publicity we cannot achieve the expected result.

We cannot implement the objective for which the Bill has been moved in this House.

[Sh. Ballav Panigrahi]

Therefore, I request the Hon. Member to see how far it is practically possible. I do not undermine the purpose for which he has moved this Bill. I congratulate Shri Jha for moving this Bill and I hope that he will realise the present situation of the country and as it is not possible to provide employment guarantee to everybody, he will withdraw his Bill.

Sir, thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to speak and with these words I conclude my speech.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Pa-drauna): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for allowing me to speak on such an important matter. I think there is not even a single person who would oppose this Bill about employment guarantee. Those who are in power must certainly be thinking seriously of providing employment to the maximum people.

Sir, many leaders of different political parties took up this issue in their own style. There was an agitation for provid employment to all. When the reservation policy was announced it sought to provide employment to some special categories of people. Hundreds of youth immolated themselves in a bid to oppose this policy. It was said that it is for social justice. They could not attain social justice but the society disintegrated. There was revolt in the society. I thank you for bringing about this bill which I hope would solve these problems in case a legislation is passed. This will eliminate rancour in society and there will not be any need for reservation. I am saying this because 3/4 of the people in the country are poor and only 1/4 of them are rich. Who are poor? Most of them are those who belong to the backward classes.

Today bitterness is being created in the society in the name of reservation. This problem of unemployment can be solved but what about the rancour that spreads in the society. Those who talk of social justice, they say why it cannot be included in the Consti-

tution and providing employment should be the primary responsibility of the Government. If it could be done all the evils of the society would be removed and many people would get employment. If a child of the rich dies lakhs of rupees are given as compensation where if a child of a poor man dies not even a *Jhuggi* is given in compensation. It is not true that both the children of the poor the rich are equal in the eyes of law and they should be given equal facilities. Those who are brilliant in academics they should be given employment. The children of poor cannot afford that and they do not have enough to eat. When a child is about 7-8 years old he is put on a job so that the family gets a bread winner. As against, if a child of a rich man fails in examination successively, a tutor is appointed to guide him. Is it not an irony of fate? The Government should formulate a uniform policy in this regard that all children irrespective of their financial status should be provided education upto High School or Graduation. If a poor man cannot afford text books and note-books for his ward, the Government should provide it to him. There is no doubt that some work is being done in this direction, but it is not entirely to our satisfaction. Besides, education must be employment oriented. The poor parents sacrifice their comforts to educate their children so that they can support them when they are old and infirm. But after his education is over, he himself is forced to beg. How can he support his parents. For example, a farmer keeps a cow in the hope that when it delivers a calf, the cow would give lot of milk but sometimes it happens that the cow does not bear at all and so the farmer does not get any milk. The children of rich families get appointed to higher posts on recommendation. I would like to submit that if employment cannot be provided to all, at least one person in every family should be provided employment. If two persons of one family have jobs they should not be given priority in other jobs. The families where nobody has got employment, would be given priority. This can help in resolving the problem of unemployment to a great extent. Now I would like to draw your attention to Banks. How many poor people get loans from the

banks? I would like to submit that the Constitution should guarantee that if a small farmer wants to seek self-employment he should get loan of Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 25,000 from the bank. This should not remain on paper alone. If we enquire into the facts we would come to know that there are very few people who have got bank-loans for employment. There should be proper enquiry into this matter. I would like to cite an example here. There is 'DOME' tribe in my area. One person belonging to this tribe got Rs. 12,000 for purchasing a generator. Some clever people misled him and asked him to sell it to a local trader for Rs. 4-5 thousand. That trader is minting money with the help of that generator. That poor fellow thinks that he will not have to pay anything.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to submit here that the clever people in the society exploit the poor. Besides, there should be changes in our education policy. There is a mad rush in the youth for degrees both at the graduation and post-graduation level. They are least bothered whether they get through in third division. Thus they are adding to the unemployment in the country. In this connection, I would like to submit that education must be made compulsory so that everyone is educated. At the same time those who have passed in FIRST Division and are capable enough to become scientists, should be encouraged. What happens is that the parents force them to study upto post graduate level and then he feels shy to work on the fields, I am not saying this on bookish knowledge. This is from personal Experience. Education should be employment oriented. Even a person having some knowledge about bicycle parts, tyre, tubes etc. is able to eke out his living. Some technical education should also be given.

Sir, there are two three categories of people in the country today. Some belong to service class, some are businessmen and some depend entirely on agriculture. The Congress Government did enforce ceiling on land holdings, but it has not been done properly. Some people have thousands of acres of agricultural land part of it registered

even in the names of their pet animals. Many big landlords and Talukdars have *benami* land. That means they are practically possessing the land holdings, but the papers are in somebody else's name. There are many land disputes in Bihar on this issue and the same thing is happening in our area also. I want to submit that we should provide agricultural land to those who do not have anything so that they could cultivate the land. But there is a legal difficulty the land. But there is a legal difficulty in this. The powerful landlords go to the court and get stay order. They fight the legal battle for 10 to 20 years. There are many clever people who evade the ceiling provision and get their lands cultivated from poor. They exploit these poor people and earn lakhs of rupees. I would like that amendments should be brought in the Land Ceiling Act and it should be made more effective so that the surplus land with big landlords could be distributed among the poor and the landlords are not able to get stay order from the court.

There is one more request. I am not asking for the Government jobs but the means of employment should be provided by private industries in the villages so that the people do not migrate to the cities in search of work. In villages, the labourers get no wage, while in a cities like Delhi, they are able to earn atleast Rs. 35-40 per day.

It is being said that the people from villages are turning the cities into slums. But what should the villagers do!

*Bhuvukshitam kim Na Karati Papam
Kshonjanani Niskaruna Bhavanti.
(A hungry man can commit any sin.
A weak man loses all compassion.)*

First of all he leaves the village and then comes to cities, later he also indulges in robberies and thefts. Suppose a son of a poor man passes B.A or M.A. and gets married. Now, being poor, he has no money, so he is ashamed and approaches criminals and indulges in robbery and theft. Many present evils of society owe their genesis to unemployment. Right now one of my friends

[Sh. Ram Nagina Mishra]

was saying that Shri Jha has introduced a very good Bill, but requested that it should be withdrawn and not put to vote. I would like to say that if all the people from ruling as well as opposition parties are convinced that all the unemployed youths of the country should be given employment, why should this Bill be withdrawn? It is a coincidence that in the Supreme Court also a hearing is going on regarding the future of bright youths. The youth of the country is looking towards us for direction. I would like to have an assurance in this regard from the hon. Minister on behalf of all the scholarly persons present here. I would like to say that this Bill should be withdrawn only on the condition that the Government, will introduce a constitution amendment Bill or a separate Bill to guarantee employment to the youths of this nation; otherwise, this should be put to vote. The introduction of a private member's bill, should not be reduced to just a ritual by having a discussion on it and making speeches and ultimately withdrawing the Bill itself. We should stand by this Bill. I would like to reiterate that in order to eradicate all social evils, remove disparities and mutual animosity, a law should be enacted by adopting this Bill through which it becomes the responsibility of Central and State Governments to provide employment to all the unemployed youths.

With these words, I thank Shri Jha and the hon. Minister who is smiling. Probably he has something in his mind.....Bengal may have taught him something. But we are in a worse situation than Bengal. A decision should be taken so that at least means of livelihood may be provided to our unemployed youths. With these words, I thank you once again.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Two hours were allotted for this Bill. Now two hours are over and I have names of seven more members who are to speak. I think half an hour would be insufficient. So shall I extend the time for this Bill by one more hour?

[English]

Two hours have been allotted for this Bill and the time is getting over. It is the pleasure of the House to extend the time for this Bill by one more hour?

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House extends the time for this Bill by one more hour.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a point of order. It is an important Bill. But have a look at the attendance in the House. It would not be proper to continue it after six 'O' clock. I would like to request that it should be passed on next Friday.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Mishra, there is no point of order. You have asked to take it up at the next sitting. I think we would complete the discussion, now that the time for this Bill has been extended by one more hour.

[English]

The House has extended the time for this Bill by one Hour does not mean that the House will sit beyond 6 o' clock.

SHRI K. THULASIAH VANDAYAR (Thanjavur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, millions in our country are under the fate of inhuman sufferings. This is due to unemployment which has become a regular feature. This has gone into the vein of all educated youth in this country. The educated youth are in the loggerheads because they are all in a dilemmatical position.

In order to avoid this dilemma, it is the necessity of the Government to provide employment to the people who are in dire need. We educate youth more what we need. For example, we have colleges which produce more than what we need and these students come out in abundance and later

become unemployed. Our educational system should be made to balance and help away these irregularities.

More than the educated people, there are those who are physically fit. Uneducated are more a menace to the society. When the educated and the uneducated are arm in arm, then there is a social imbalance. It has become a problem more ticklish and rude. From this we have problems like social injustice, terrorism and social breads.

Farming has become costly and it has almost become a gamble. Lakhs of farmers are migrating to cities and towns. In the cities these labourers are those who live in inhuman condition. It is these unfortunate people who create slums and create a mess. Though we have so many human rights in this world, still we see so much disparity between man and man. In socialist countries like Russia, China and other European countries they have dignity for labour. But here we have a few bosses and lakhs of people are subservient to them.

Too much subordination will lead to violence and terrorism. It is due to this, we have the feudal outlook and the villages are infested with bonded labourers.

There are so many vacancies in the Government offices. But they are not filled up. If we ask them as to why they have not filled these vacancies? They say that it is because of economic and financial stringency. The Government must not feel shy in creating new jobs and they should cater to their needs. The educated youth's tendency is to do white-collared jobs. Self-employment programmes should be encouraged and the money they get from the banks must be properly utilised. Taxing in our country is exorbitant and the people living under poverty line is a misery. This should be erased and expunged. When we spend crores and crores of rupees, that money is being drained without any rhyme or reason. We must all put our heads together so that we put an end to this miserable wretchedness by introducing

the Gandhian way of self-employment and decentralisation.

In this way, the Bill introduced by Shri Jha will have the moral support of the Treasury Benches too.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH (Siddhipet): Mr. Chairman, Sir, many hon. Members have expressed their views regarding the employment guarantee. Employment guarantee is a serious issue. Every member in touch with morning T.V. might be knowing the rate by which population of India is increasing. Irrespective of the Party to which we may belong whether it is Congress or any other party, employment guarantee is a serious issue for all of us.

When we go to our constituencies we find that despite various activities, unemployment is still a serious problem. The people try to establish industry only where subsidy is available, for example, one of the stipulated conditions is that an industry must be set up a distance of 40 kms from the cities.

I would like to say that something must be done to generate employment in villages where 80 per cent of our population lives. They migrate to the capital in search of job. They face many difficulties. I feel that the Central Government gives a lot of subsidy to industries. I would like that permission for setting up industries should be granted in villages and in backward areas only where we have a large number of unemployed persons. It can possibly solve the problem of unemployment.

I would not like to mention some specific States, but everywhere a large number of educated persons are unemployed. Their parents educate them by taking lot of pains and when they see that even after graduation their wards are unable to get a Government or a private job, they are disappointed.

Today, terrorism is growing at many places. When an educated youth fails to get

[Sh. Nandi Yellaiah]

employment, he is lured towards terrorism. We will have to face this also.

The 'Employment Guarantee Bill' introduced by the hon. Member is good, but we will have to decide here for providing employment guarantee to our youths since it involves an expenditure of crores of rupees. Our Minister of State for Finance, Shri Dalbir Singh is sitting here. The youths are harassed a lot while trying to get a loan from the banks and they do not get these loans easily. A top leader of Janata Dal, Shri Devi Lai had announced with a great fanfare about the loan waiving scheme. He announced it just for the sake of votes. Today, the banks are afraid of giving loans to everyone. The policy and thinking of our Government has been very good regarding all such issues, but it has not been implemented properly.

Today, the problem of unemployment has assumed serious proposition in every region, State and all over India. The Bill introduced by the hon. member belonging to the opposition is a case of 'easier said than done' because this problem cannot be solved by merely paying lip service or making speeches. We will have to control our population. The villagers also need facilities. The people belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes are also unable to get jobs even after education. All this is creating a lot of problem.

While Shrimati Indira Gandhi was the Prime Minister, she had distributed thousands of acres of land under Twenty point economic programme. But despite all this there are many people with very large land holding, but the families of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes do not have even 4 acres of land and they live on daily wages. The problem of unemployment is more amongst the people of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes than in other castes.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, this problem involves a lot of finance and serious thinking. We should think seriously as to how society

should be reformed to solve this problem. With these words, I thank you and conclude.

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV (Sahasra): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I express my gratitude towards Shri Bhogendra Jha for drawing attention of this House towards the problem of the unemployed and the poor in the country.

Sir, you might also be knowing that this is a major problem that we encounter wherever we go. Everywhere people ask for work.

Hon. Chairman, Sir, Pawar Sahib is also sitting here. I recall that when he was elected as the President of Congress 'S' he had said in Marathi, and I was also there, that his first work would be to solve the problem of unemployment. I had heard it myself. Today fortunately, Pawar Sahib is in this House and he is also capable of doing this.

Hon. Chairman, Sir, when we were discussing about employment guarantee, our elder friend, Shri Ram Nagina Mishra also spoke on the subject. God knows why people are so much afraid of social justice. I fail to understand the reason for their anxiety. Just now Mishraji said that reservation was implemented in the name of social justice. I want to say that despite 42-45 years of achieving Independence and despite the constitutional right, reservation was never fully implemented. Anyone can see the injustice against society and country in all this. You can see the statistics. The people who constitute 52 and 22 percent of population account for just 5-7 percent of Government jobs in the country. In Defence Ministry, people from all castes are working, but the number of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes people is just nil or perhaps one and in Ministry of Agriculture it is just 2. This is the position of backwards and dalits, while all the other people are there. Is it social justice? I would like to know it from Mishraji. One of my friend said that banks lost their credit due to loan waiving scheme of Devlalji and people are not getting loans: I would like to know from those hon. Members whether the banks have adhered to the policy adopted at the

time of Bank nationalisation by Mrs. Indira Gandhi. Will the Finance Minister clarify this? No, it has not been so. Banks were opened in the district headquarters, but not in the villages or the areas bound by the rivers on the plea that there was lack of security and concrete buildings. I would like say that the Minister of Finance should understand that it would be a mockery of the goals envisaged for the banks by Mrs. Indira Gandhi, if banks are not opened in every district. Merely crying hoarse about villages would be of no avail. Our Government had given some benefits to farmers. We are sons of farmers. We hail from villages. What is the condition of farmers. He takes the loan, invests that money in agriculture the crops are destroyed either due to flood or hail. Laster he fails to pay the loan. As a result the loans taken by the farmers and farm workers 15-20 years earlier, could not be paid back. For the loans, we had given crores of rupees through this very Lok Sabha to the Poor and farmers. So where is the question of loss of credit for the banks? It is not good to say something out of ignorance. We had given the money to banks. Our Government had provided money to banks and asked them to waive the loan. Therefore, it would be good if we deliberate before discussing.

Sir, the uneducated unemployed have migrated to cities. In Delhi itself, which has a population of about 85 or 90 lakhs, 50 lakhs people have come from outside. They live on stations, roads and sleep in huts and railway tracks. Who are they? They are matriculates and graduates. When they did not get employment in their native place, they opened a 'Paan shop' or started pulling a cart (thela). What a plight is theirs.

Often Delhi Police demolishes their houses, catches hold of them, puts the things

on their thelas (carts) in their pockets and beats them with sticks. What a tragedy!

Therefore, I request that Jha Sahib should not withdraw this Bill. It should be put to vote so that all the employed and unemployed people of the country may know that who is their benefactor and who is not. Let these people be exposed. Please do not withdraw this Bill.

Sir, unless, agriculture is given the status of industry, you cannot solve the problem of unemployment. If a farmer has 20-25 acres of land and four children, then he is left with just four or five acres of land. Some may have just one or two acres of land. So, if you develop the agriculture like industry, then the educated people would not come to seek employment to the cities. The condition of agriculture is extremely pitiable. If a father has four or five children, he asks them to go out and earn for their livelihood. Therefore we must give agriculture the status of industry, on top priority.

18.00 hrs.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN (Shri P.M. Sayeed): Shri Yadav, may continue next time. There are five to six more speakers. They will also get their chance to speak on the day of next Private Members' Business.

The House stands adjourned to meet again on Monday at 11.00 o'clock.

18.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Monday, December 9, 1991/Agrahayana 18, 1913 (Saka)