

Implementation of Employment Generation Programmes

591. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various employment generation programmes under implementation at present;

(b) the targets fixed and achievements made under each of these programmes during the last three years, state-wise; and

(c) the measures taken to implement these programmes effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) IRDP (Integrated Rural Development Programme) and JRY (Jawahar Rozgar Yojana) are major employment generation programmes being implemented by the Central Government at present. IRDP is a self-employment programme for poverty alleviation with the objective to enable identified rural poor families to cross the poverty line by providing them productive assets and inputs in various sectors of economy through financial assistance by way of government subsidy and term credit from financial institutions. Under the programme, the target group consists of small and marginal farmers, agricultural labourers, rural artisans, etc. The programme provides safeguards for the disadvantaged section of society like SC/STs, physically handicapped and women. The pattern of subsidy to the beneficiaries is —25 per cent for small farmers 33.3 per cent for marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and rural artisans, and 50 per cent for SC/ST Physically handicapped persons. The scheme is implemented through DRDAs (District Rural Development Agencies) at the district level and at the field level, block machinery is entrusted with the implementation of the programme. The funding pattern for the programme is 50:50 between the Central and the State.

JRY is another major poverty alleviation programme of the Central Government. It is a major wage employment programme implemented by the Government with the primary objective of generation of additional gainful employment for the unemployed and under-employed persons in the rural areas. Under the programme, preference is given to the members of SC/STs and 30 per cent of employment opportunities are earmarked for women in the rural areas. The scheme is implemented at the district level through DRDAs/ Zilla Parishads and at the village level through the Gram Panchayats. The overall expenditure on the implementation of the programme is shared between the Centre and the State on 80:20 basis. For development of backward districts, this scheme has been intensified in 1993-94 in 120 backward districts in different States of the country where there is concentration of unemployed and under-employed persons.

Besides, Government of India has also implemented from October, 1993 another scheme called "Employment Assurance Scheme" which aims to provide assured employment of 100 days of unskilled manual work to the rural poor who are in need of employment and seeking for it. This scheme is being implemented in 1978 blocks of 261 districts in 23 States and 4 Union Territories of the country. The target fixed and achievements made under IRDP and JRY programmes during the last 3 years, State-wise are given in Annexure (See Appendix 171, annexure No. 13).

(c) For effective implementation of the employment generation programmes, these programmes are regularly monitored through—(i) periodical progress reports/returns; (ii) financial returns/audit reports; (iii) intensive field inspections, and (iv) review by committees/senior officers. Besides, the Central Government has also introduced "Area Officers" scheme which aims to monitor various employment programmes with special reference to quality, timeliness and proper achievements of phy-

sical and financial targets. These measures adopted by the Government have helped in effective implementation of these programmes.

Conference for agriculture and rural development activities

302. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry have recently organised some round table conference to evolve and action-frame for corporate entities to get involved in the agriculture and rural development activities;

(b) if so, the details thereof with objectives behind it;

(c) whether the activities as in (a) above will boost scope of rural employment;

(d) if is, the details thereof with steps to be taken in this regard and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): (a) The Ministry of Rural Development is not aware of organising of such a conference recently by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. Nor has the Ministry received any such proposal from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Allocation of funds for J.R.Y.

503. SHRI RAHASBHAI BARIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allocated to different stages for implementing Jawahar Rozgar Yojana during the last three years;

(b) whether there is a need to enhance the allocation under the Scheme to backward States like Orissa, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the steps taken in that direction during 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The Statewise funds released under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) during the last three years is given in enclosed Statement. (See below).

(b) Government recognises the special problems in relatively backward states.

(c) To provide additional employment opportunities in the backward States like Orissa, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, the JRY was intensified in 120 backward districts of the country where there is concentration of unemployment and under-employment and hence the need for intensifying efforts on rural employment. Accordingly, an allocation of Rs. 878.20 crores was made during 1993-94 (including the States' Matching Share) for intensifying JRY in these backward districts. An equal amount has been allocated for the year 1994-95 also in addition, the allocation under normal JRY has also been significantly enhanced every successive year.

Further, an Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) has also been introduced w.e.f. 2-10-1993 in 1778 backward blocks of the country where Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) is in operation. This scheme aims at providing 100 days of assured employment to all those who are above 18 years and below 60 years of age, in rural areas, who are in need of employment and seeking it.