

macro economic policy issues, sectoral policy issues, Labour Policy, micro and small enterprises' issues, skill development issues, issues relating to women and other vulnerable workers have been considered and steps suggested for improving avenues of employment. The proposed policy is under consideration of the Government.

(d) The Ministry offers a range of 114 training courses through a network of 7984 Industrial Training Institutes/Centres (ITIs/ITCs) under Craftsmen Training Scheme (CTS) and 78 Central Institutes to about 1.2 million persons every year. Ministry also has seating capacity of 0.27 million in 24900 establishments under Apprenticeship Training Scheme. These two schemes form the backbone of the National Vocational Training System of the country.

In order to train skilled workforce of international standards, all the 1896 Government ITIs are being modernised at a cost of Rs. 5291 crore under three schemes. In addition, 1500 new ITIs and 5000 Skill Development Centres are proposed to be set up in public private partnership mode to train larger number of youth to meet the growing requirement of industry.

In addition, a new scheme titled 'Skill Development Initiative' has been started with effect from 2007-08 to impart training under short term Modular Employable Skills (MES) courses. The objective of the scheme is to train one million persons in five years and thereafter one million every year in demand driven trades.

#### **Implementation of Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act**

\*194. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any assessment about the implementation of the Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act which has come into force in May, 2009;

(b) if so, at what stage is its implementation at Centre as well as at State levels; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure that the provisions of the Act are implemented effectively?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) to (c) The Government has framed 'Unorganised Workers' Social Security Rules, 2009 under the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008 and constituted the National Social Security Board under the Chairmanship of Union Labour Minister on 18.8.2009. The Board held two meetings and discussed issues relating to social security of workers. The Board recommended extension of social security schemes viz.; Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY), life and disability cover and old age pension to other categories of unorganised workers. In the Budget Speech for the year 2010-11, the Finance Minister has proposed to extend benefits of RSBY to all such Mahatma Gandhi NREGA beneficiaries who have worked for more than 15 days during the preceding financial year. He also announced setting up of National Social Security Fund for unorganized sector workers with initial allocation of Rs. 1,000 crore. This fund will support

schemes for weavers, toddy tappers, rickshaw pullers, bidi workers etc. The Railway Minister in her Budget speech for 2010-11, has proposed to extend the RSBY to all licensed porters, vendors and hawkers, who are from the unorganized sector and are socially challenged.

The issue of implementation of the Act by the State Governments has been impressed upon by the Government through written communications. It was also taken up as a prominent topic of discussion during State Labour Ministers' Conference held in January, 2010.

#### **Development of disputed area in Karnataka bordering Maharashtra**

\*195. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the disputed area in Karnataka bordering Maharashtra is going through traumatic and most humiliating experiences caused by utter indifference and apathy of the successive Governments of Karnataka towards the developmental problems of the linguistic minority; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken so far to develop the disputed area by providing proper infrastructural facilities necessary for agriculture, industry, roads, education and the Marathi language?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) Government of Maharashtra has alleged that people of disputed areas in Karnataka bordering Maharashtra are suffering humiliating and traumatic experience because of apathy of Government of Karnataka towards the developmental problems of linguistic minority. However, the State of Karnataka has denied the allegations.

(b) The details of department-wise developmental work carried out in these disputed areas as per the information received from the Government of Karnataka, are given in Statement.

#### ***Statement***

##### ***Infrastructure Development works taken up in Belgaum District***

#### **AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT**

1. Like in other parts of the State, Raitha Samparka Kendras (RSKs)- the basic functioning units of the department at Hobli level are being strengthened in these areas also. Further, the critical inputs like quality seeds, bio-fertilizers, bio-pesticides, PP chemicals, machineries and all other facilities available under the schemes of the department are also being extended to these areas. In addition to these, Seed Processing units are being established to cater the needs of the farmers of the border areas.