

non-aligned movement. That is how this has been done.

Unemployed persons in the country

*272. SHRI SULTAN SINGH:

SHRI MAQSOOD ALI

KHAN:

PROF. N. M. KAMBLE:

SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN

SINGH:†

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWA-

NA:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of unemployed persons registered with the Employment Exchange throughout the country as on the 30th April, 1977; and the 30th April 1978; and

(b) how many persons out of those who were on the live register of the Employment Exchanges on the 30th April, 1977 have been placed in jobs till the 30th June, 1978?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) The number of job-seekers (all of whom are not necessarily unemployed) on the Live Register of Employment Exchanges as on the 30th April 1977 and 30th April 1978 was 10,336.5 and 11,412.2 thousand respectively.

(b) 449.1 thousand job-seekers (some of whom might have registered subsequent to 30th April, 1977 also) were placed in employment through the employment exchanges, during the period 1st May 1977 to 30th April, 1978.

श्री भोष्म नारायण सिंह : मान्यवर, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि प्रधान मंत्री जी ने घोषणा यह की कि 10 वर्ष में बेरोजगारी समाप्त कर दी जायेगी देश से। तो उस घोषणा को सामने रखने हुए

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Bhishma Narain Singh.

अभी माननीय संसदीय कार्य और कार्मिक मंत्री जी ने जो आकड़े प्रस्तुत किये, एक वर्ष 6 महीने के लगभग जनता पार्टी को हुआ है, तो उस घोषणा के अनुपात में आप मुझे यह बताये कि क्या आप यह समझते हैं कि आप बेरोजगारी दूर करने की दिशा में सही कदम उठा रहे हैं ?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Sir, the question relates to the number of job seekers registered with employment exchanges and the placements made from the live register in employment exchanges. Therefore, the answer primarily was related to the question. The supplementary that the hon. Member has raised is about the Prime Minister's declaration that within 10 years we will tackle the problem of unemployment and under-employment in such a way that these two scourges no longer troubled the Indian people. Sir, the question was whether we believed that the steps that were being taken would lead us to this objective. I would submit, first of all, that in the case of generation of new jobs, it is not necessary that there should be an immediate impact on the live register because the hon. Member knows that the jobs that are compulsorily notified to the employment exchanges relate to a particular area and do not cover all areas of job generation. Therefore, as far as the question of generating new jobs and new opportunities for employment is concerned we have no doubt that the new strategy that we have adopted in planning will lead to the generation of 50 million new jobs in the next five years.

श्री भोष्म नारायण सिंह : मेरा बड़ा स्पष्ट सवाल था... (Interruptions) यह उससे संबंधित है—मंत्री जी ने यह कहा कि प्रधान मंत्री जी ने जो घोषणा की है उसका सीधा संबंध इस सवाल से नहीं है, हां यह है कि वह अनइम्प्लाइमेंट दूर करने के लिए जो

in the Employment Exchanges, and get a retiring service in the Employment Exchange. That is, having registered themselves, they would have retired without getting any employment. Will the Minister take action to see that such of those people as have registered their names three or four years back get some employment and preference is given to them when they are sent for employment?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Sir, there are two parts of the hon. Member's question. One which deals with... (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are complaining that I am not covering more questions and yet you are also insisting.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Sir, one part of the question deals with what may be described as alleged corruption, or preference being given to some people while the applications of others, or registration of others not being given the same attention. As far as this is concerned, perhaps the House is aware that we have appointed a Committee which is going into the administration of these Employment Exchanges and such complaints and we hope that the Committee will submit its report very soon. I must also remind the House that as far as the administration of Employment Exchanges is concerned; the State Government is also responsible for the administration of the Employment Exchanges and not only the Central Government. As far as the second question is concerned, about some persons who have registered with the employment exchanges being on the live register for many years and retiring with or without pension, I can only say that every effort is made to place any person who has been registered in the live vacancies that are notified to the employment exchange.

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI: The hon'ble Minister stated that the persons on the live register

are limited. Since there are only 500 exchanges in the country, there is another set of people who cannot get access to the employment exchanges because of the rural areas. He has suggested that because of industries like irrigation, dairy or poultry more employment is being generated. But actually is the Minister aware that during the one year after your first interim Budget and the new Budget, national investment in this sector particularly in irrigation and agriculture has not taken place and, to that extent, employment is not generated?

Similarly, on the urban side Mr. George Fernandes's medicine of creating D.I.Cs. is also an ayurvedic medicine. But it will not work where the patient requires an operation or an intrave injection. In this connection I want to know if the Government is really very serious—I do not want to use that political gimmicks in suggesting that all the efforts of the Ministry and the Government should be directed to solving this problem of poverty and for that purpose unless economic steps are taken to create a structural change and give a thrust in employment generation which is not going to happen and to know what are the specific steps your Ministry proposes to take since you are involved to give employment to the massive unemployed persons in this country.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Sir, I am somewhat surprised that my honourable and distinguished friend should have thought that the Labour Ministry is responsible for the generation of employment opportunities. The Government, of course, is collectively responsible; but the Labour Ministry is not responsible for the creation of jobs according to the present position. However, the Government itself is responsible, and to that extent, I can certainly answer his question.

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI: Are you a stock-keeper of

the Government? Are you a ledger-keeper of the Government?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: The hon'ble Member is free to use any phraseology to describe me. But the fact remains that if I claim for my Ministry more than the share of responsibility that has been entrusted to my Ministry I will not be fair to the division of responsibility in the Cabinet. Therefore, in answer to his question, I would say this. He said that a major thrust for the generation of employment is dependent on socio-economic changes. There can be no two opinions on this count. He referred to the suggestion made by my distinguished colleague, Mr. George Fernandes, and others about the creation of industrial centres at the district level.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: And the land army.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Including the land army. The main question is that in the past many attempts were made to have special programmes for the generation of employment. I need not remind the House what happened to these crash programmes. They crashed or they did not get off the ground. I can read out to you, Sir...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not necessary.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: ... a list of at least ten such programmes which did not lead to the fulfilment of the objectives they had. And that is precisely why in 1975 it was decided that this whole strategy of depending on special crash programmes should be subjected to a review. And the Project Evaluation Organisation, therefore, was asked to have such a review since it was found that the desired results were not yielded by such programmes.

Then, Sir, there are two alternatives before the Government out of which it has to choose one: either to go in for this kind of fringe or marginal programmes which are oriented more

towards publicity and political gimmickry or to go in for a basic change in strategy. The experience of thirty years showed that such crash programmes did not yield the necessary results. Therefore, this Government has decided on a basic change in the orientation of planning and put emphasis on generation of jobs.

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI: What is the content of the change?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: I would recommend him to read the next Five-Year Plan.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't reply. Shri Mahanti.

(Interruptions)

श्री कल्प नाथ राय : फेल हो गयी है यह गवर्नमेंट ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Silence, please.

SHRI BHAIKAB CHANDRA MAHANTI: What are the new avenues of employment, particularly in the public sector during this period and to what extent have they eased the unemployment problem? Also, what is the percentage so far as the public sector and private sector are concerned, in regard to solution of this problem?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Sir, the undertakings in the public sector do account for some employment, but it will not be possible for me to say that a number of new public sector undertakings have been set up for creating employment during the last year. If the hon. Member wants to know the exact number of people employed in the public sector and private sector and vacancies in the two sectors, if I am given notice I can give the figures.

(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT PRASAD SHARMA: Sir, my question is very simple.

(Interruptions) I want to put a very simple question.

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : हमारी तरफ भी ध्यान दिया जाय । यह रोजगार दफ्तर जो है वह चोर बाजारी और भ्रष्टाचार का अड्डा है । तीस वर्ष की कांग्रेस हुकूमत में कुछ नहीं हुआ (Interruptions) और यह सरकार अगर उस रास्ते पर चलेगी तो इस का विरोध होगा ।

(Interruptions)

SHRI ANANT PRASAD SHARMA: Sir, my question is very simple. There are people who seek employment. Their names are registered with the various Employment Exchanges. That is one category. Then, according to the Minister's statement, 80 per cent people in the rural areas are not covered by these "Unemployment Exchanges". (Interruptions) I am putting the question, please listen. The Government has assured that they will be solving this problem of unemployment in ten years. My question is whether the Government has taken into account all the unemployed people both on the registers and those who are not registered and also the unemployed people who will be seeking jobs during the next ten years. What is the concrete scheme by which the Government will solve this problem and how many people are you going to employ annually? The question is very simple.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Sir, I shall try to answer this very simple question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In a simple way.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: I shall try to be very simple. The answer to this question, as I stated earlier, Sir, is that the next Plan will be oriented to the generation of job opportunities.

SHRI ANANT PRASAD SHARMA: How many?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Let me answer.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please answer.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: I shall have to repeat the answer. The Plan is expected to generate 50 million man years for 50 million people.

श्री पीलू मोदी : इसमें तो तुमको भी काम मिल जायगा ।

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: I would give more information if the hon Member wants to know the facts.

Of these, nearly 22.768 million will be in the agricultural and allied sectors, 0.447 million in the mining sector, 8.198 million in the manufacturing sector, including cottage industries and construction and other services will account for 17.128 million.

SHRI ANANT PRASAD SHARMA: Will he take care of the unemployed people within 10 years? That is the question

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: I cannot take care even of the hon. Member. How can I take care of the other unemployed?

SHRI ANANT PRASAD SHARMA: This is a bogus slogan that the Government has given

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: We have not learnt any slogans from the hon. Member.

SHRI ANANT PRASAD SHARMA: Your Prime Minister has given the slogan that he is going to solve the unemployment problem within 10 years...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It will not be taken down.

(Shri Anant Prasad Sharma continued to speak).

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : श्रीमन्, 30 वर्षों के कांग्रेस राज के मैं आपके सामने तीन आंकड़े पेश करना चाहता हूँ । माननीय मंत्री

बैठे हुए हैं। इन्होंने एक साल के अन्दर 3 हजार लोगों को बगैर रोजगार दफ्तरों से लिस्ट लिए नौकरी में लगाया।
(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your supplementary?

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : इसी तरीके से उद्योग विभाग में करीब नौ हजार लोग इस ढंग से नौकरी पर रखे गये। (Interruptions) टेलीफोन करके पहले नियुक्ति कर ली जाती है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Be brief.

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : मेरी बात सुन लीजिए। जो हमारे मंत्री यहां पर बैठे हुए हैं उनसे मैं कहना चाहता हूं।

SHRI K. K. MADHAVAN: I cannot catch your eye. Therefore, I am standing here. (Interruptions) But I cannot catch your eye. You would have to decide.

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : आपके रोजगार दफ्तरों में भ्रष्टाचार बना हुआ है। उस पर नियंत्रण लगाइये।

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is Question Hour. Hon. Member may resume his seat. (Interruptions) Will you please resume your seat? This is Question Hour. You cannot go on arguing with those people. Next question.

SHRI K. K. MADHAVAN: Sir, you allow so many questions to some people but you prevent me from putting questions. This is highly unfair. (Interruptions) He has put even two questions.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please resume your seat. (Interruptions) Please resume your seat.

SHRI K. K. MADHAVAN: You are not conducting the House properly. You are not conducting it according to the rules. You are yourself violating the rules.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

Revision of minimum wage for the agricultural labour

*273. SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:†
SHRI S. KUMARAN:
SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHA-
PATRO:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be
pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up any machinery to implement the minimum wage fixed for agricultural labour in the States;

(b) what are the names of the States which have not implemented the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act in this respect;

(c) what measures the Central Government are taking to ensure a minimum wage to the agricultural labour;

(d) whether Government propose to revise the existing minimum wage; and

(e) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR
(SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) Yes, Sir. Necessary machinery exists both in the Centre and in the States for implementation of Minimum Wages Act in respect of agricultural labour. It may be mentioned that the bulk of employment in agriculture falls in the State sphere.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The State Government/Union Territories have been advised from time to time to take effective steps to ensure proper implementation of the notified minimum wages for agricultural labour.

(d) and (e) A statement showing the minimum wages notified by the

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Indradeep Sinha.