

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) No such complaint has been received.

(d) Welfare Commissioners of the concerned region inspect hospitals from time to time to ensure smooth functioning of the hospital. The Internal Audit and Statutory Audit are also conducted periodically. However, on receipt of complaint, suitable action is taken as per rules.

Adoption of new National Employment Policy

2433. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is likely to adopt new National Employment Policy; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and by when it is expected to be adopted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) Ministry of Labour and Employment have prepared a draft National Employment Policy with an objective to accelerate employment growth, particularly in the organized sector and improve the quality of jobs in terms of productivity, average earnings and protection of workers, specially in the unorganised sector. Under the policy, macro economic policy issues, sectoral policy issues, Labour policy, micro and small enterprises' issues, skill development issues, issues relating to women and vulnerable workers have been considered and steps suggested for improving avenues of employment. The proposed policy is under consideration of the Government.

Creation of job opportunities

†2434. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the growth in the creation of job opportunities and in the rate of unemployment in the country during each of the last two years;

(b) whether Government has taken steps to rein in the growth rate of unemployment; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps taken to check unemployment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation. Last such survey was conducted during 2004-05. As per the two most recent

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

quinquennial rounds of surveys on employment and unemployment, employment opportunities on current daily status basis were estimated at 338.19 million in 1999-2000 and 384.91 million in 2004-05. As per the last two survey reports, unemployment rate on current daily status basis has increased from 7.3% in 1999-2000 to 8.3% during 2004-05 in the country.

(b) and (c) Eleventh Five Year Plan aims at creating 58 million job opportunities and it is expected that there would be reduction in unemployment rate to 4.83% on current daily status towards the end of the plan period. The focus is on productive employment at a faster pace in order to raise the incomes of masses of the rural population to bring about a general improvement in their living conditions. The job opportunities are like to be created on account of growth in Gross Domestic Product (GDP), investment in infrastructure development, growth in exports etc. Government of India has also been implementing various employment generation programmes, such as, Swarana Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY); Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP); Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA).

Establishment of an Arjun Sengupta Scheme for Unorganised Enterprises

2435. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the memory of the late Dr. Arjun Sengupta, MP, he would consider establishing an Arjun Sengupta Scheme for Unorganised Enterprises to carry forward the work initiated by the National Commission for the Unorganised Enterprises Sector which he chaired; and

(b) if not, whether Government proposes to establish an Arjun Sengupta Institute for Unorganised Enterprises under the aegis of his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) and (b) The Government constituted National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganized Sector (NCEUS) under the Chairmanship of Dr. Arjun Sengupta. The Commission submitted its Reports including Report on Social Security for Unorganized Workers. On the basis of the recommendations of the Commission, the Government enacted, 'Unorganized Workers Social Security Act, 2008' envisaging formulation of social security schemes for these workers. However, no proposal to establish an Arjun Sengupta Scheme for unorganized enterprises is under consideration of the Government.

Unemployment in rural and urban areas

2436. SHRI P. RAJEEV: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state: