

current capacity of Skill Development in the country is about 3.85 million. Further, State Government, also undertake various Skill Development Programmes as per their local needs. National Skill Development Corporation, a non-profit company under the Companies Act, 1956 has been set up by the Government to promote skill development, in private sector.

(b) to (d) The Ministry has formulated a scheme titled “Skill Development Plan for 34 districts affected by Left Wing Extremism” covering the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal. Five districts of Orissa are proposed to be covered under the scheme. The scheme is under consideration of the Government.

#### **Making labour laws flexible to employ women**

¶3217. SHRI JAI PRAKASH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export organizations of the country have demanded to make the labour laws flexible and made a request to employ the women in the works like packing, sampling and marketing, as the problems are being faced in respect of export due to lack of labourers;

(b) if so, whether Government has considered the demands; and

(c) by when Government will take decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) to (c) Ministry of Labour and Employment receives requests for amendment of labour laws catering to different aspects of labour, namely, social security, occupational safety and health, industrial relations, wages etc. from time to time. Review/updation of labour laws is a continuous process, in order to bring them in tune with the emerging needs of the economy. The required changes in the labour laws are considered by the Government after detailed consultation with other Ministries, social partners with a view to harmonize the interests of all stakeholders.

#### **Non-payment of PF dues of site workers**

3218. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBI has registered a case against employers/owners of M/s Hiranandani Group, Mumbai for cheating Employees Provident Fund Organization by not paying Rs. 168 crore in provident fund dues of site workers employed through contractors in various housing projects;

(b) if so, the details of the charges;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.