

[19 August, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

**House hold employment**

1720. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to target Five crore for house holds for employing one able bodied person from each family for hundred days of work;

(b) the amount approximately required to give the promise a shape; and

(c) the source from which funds would be raised?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (c) The work on drafting a Bill for National Employment Guarantee Act to provide 100 days of employment to one member of a poor household has begun. The requirement of funds and the number of household to be covered are yet to be finalized. Necessary funds would be provided by Central/State Governments as per the requirement. In the mean time, Food for work programme in 150 most backward districts has been announced in the Budget for the current year.

**Job-seekers in A.P.**

1721. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that according to the latest figures, the number of job-seekers on the 'live register' in Andhra Pradesh was 26.7 lakh;

(b) if so, the details concerning the State of Andhra Pradesh from the report released recently by the Employment Directorate; and

(c) the steps being taken to provide jobs to the job-seekers in various parts of the country with particular reference to Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Number of job-seekers all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the live register of employment exchanges in Andhra Pradesh were approximately 26.7 lakh. In Andhra Pradesh around 2.2 lakh job-seekers registered for jobs during the year 2003.

Out of 13.4 thousand vacancies notified to the employment exchanges in Andhra Pradesh, 3.7 thousands placements was made during 2003.

(c) Creation of 5 crore employment opportunities are being targeted during the Tenth Plan period in the country. This will benefit job-seekers in Andhra Pradesh also.

**I.L.O.'s programme on elimination of child labour**

1722. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the International Labour Organization has launched a programme aimed at preventing and eliminating hazardous child labour by enhancing the human, social and physical capacity of target communities;

(b) if so, its salient features thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that 11 million working children exist in our country; and

(d) the efforts made by Government to eliminate child labour during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Labour, Government of India and US, Deptt. of Labour have developed a project named INDUS Project under ILO-IPEC for Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour in identified Hazardous Sectors. This project has been developed as a follow-up of the Joint Statement on "Enhanced Indo-US Cooperation on Eliminating Child Labour" signed between the Ministry of Labour and the US Department of Labour in August, 2000 whereby each reiterated their respective nation's commitment to the Prohibition and Elimination of the Worst Forms of child labour as a matter of urgency and agreed that each would support and facilitate the development of comprehensive projects in identified sectors.

(c) As per the Census figures of 2001 (provisional), the number of working children in the country is 12.59 million.