

labour between the age group of 7 to 14;

(b) steps Government have taken to protect the children from exploitation;

(c) whether Government have received the report of the Committee of Labour Ministers of four states constituted to study the problem;

(d) if not, when the report is expected; and

(e) reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) The Registrar General of India has intimated that the statistics regarding child labour in the country according to 1981 census has not been compiled in their office so far. However, according to 1971 census the number of workers in the age group 0-14 years was 10.7 million.

(b) While it may not be possible in the near future to eliminate child labour completely in the socio-economic condition prevailing in the country, it has been Government's consistent endeavour to ensure that children compelled to work by circumstances should not be exploited and should be able to work in better conditions of health and hygiene. Government has formulated projects connected with the welfare of working children for execution through voluntary agencies in the field. Besides, in pursuance of the recommendations of the Committee on Child Labour, a Central Advisory Board on child labour has been set up to advise the Government on the problems of child labour. The state Governments and the Union Territory Administrations have been requested to also set up State and District level boards on child labour.

A committee consisting of State Labour Ministers was set up, as per decision in last Labour Minister's Conference to examine the question of minimum age of a child for entry into employment and the need for comprehensive legislation on child labour.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). Does not arise.

### Production of Oil Seeds

3892. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received suggestions to increase growth rate in the production of oil seeds for meeting the edible oil needs of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) :

(a) and (b). The Government of India have received suggestions from the Central Organisation for Oil Industry and Trade, Bombay, that a production target of 75-80 lakh tonnes of Vegetable oils might be achieved by the end of Seventh Plan. The measures suggested for achieving this include corporate/joint sector farming for the production of good variety seed, encouraging plantation of oil-seed bearing trees, use of fallow and desert areas for oilseed cultivation, increasing irrigated area under oilseeds at least by one per cent, exemption of land under oilseed specially marginal and marshy lands from land revenue, putting into practice technological advances at farms' level and increasing the production of rice bran oil.

(c) The Government is taking every possible steps to increase the production of oil-seeds in the country. These suggestions among others, are taken into consideration by the Government while formulating the programmes for oilseeds development.

### Induction of IEs, FEOs and EAs into the Central Information Service

3893. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had taken a decision as far back as March, 1984 to induct Inspectors of Exhibition, Field Exhibition Officers and Exhibition Assistants of the Exhibition Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to the Central Information Service;

(b) if so, whether Government finalised the list of officers proposed to be inducted and details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government have fixed a time limit for implementing the decision ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) :**

(a) The Government decided in March, 1984 to upgrade the pay scales of the posts of Field Exhibition Officers and Exhibition

Assistants with a view to facilitate their inclusion in the appropriate grades of the Central Information Service.

(b) and (c). The actual induction of the incumbents can be made only after they are assessed suitable for appointment in the relevant grades of the Service. Their personnel data and other necessary documents are in the process of completion to enable the Union Public Service Commission to assess their suitability for the purpose.

(d) Whereas all efforts will be made to complete the process of induction of the officers concerned into the service, it is not possible to lay down any specific time frame for the same.

#### Loss Suffered by ESIC

3894. **SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Employees State Insurance Corporation after running profitably for many years has joined the ranks of losing public sector undertakings;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Government have decided to expand the scheme to the workers whose monthly income is Rs. 1600/- to sustain losses; and

(d) if so, the details of proposals to get more profit to Employees State Insurance Corporation ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) :** (a) and (b). The E.S.I. Corporation is a service Organisation responsible for administering the ESI Scheme and not a Public Sector Undertaking run on commercial basis. It is, however, a fact that the revenue budget of the Corporation for the year 1983-84 was in deficit of Rs. 2.31 crores. The Corporation is likely to have some deficit during the year 1984-85 also. These deficits are mainly due to reduction in the contribution income on account of the employees drawing wages beyond Rs. 1000/- going out of coverage and increase in expenditure on provision of medical benefit and payment of cash benefits.

(c) The wage limit for coverage under the Act has been raised from Rs. 1000/- to Rs. 1600/- per month with effect from 27.1.1985, so as to extend the beneficial provisions of the Act to a large number of employees who had gone out of coverage due to rise in their wages beyond Rs. 1000/-.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

#### Houses for Low and Middle Income Group

3895. **SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI :** Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi Development Authority builds houses for middle and low income groups on hire-purchase basis;

(b) if so, the time by which new registration for these houses is likely to be started in near future; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

**THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). DDA proposes to float a new registration scheme for retired/retiring persons in the next 2-3 months. There is, however, no immediate proposal to float new registration scheme in general category in view of huge backlog of registrants under Hudco pattern scheme and some backlog under general housing scheme.