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INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE

22.1 The agenda of the 89th Session of the International Labour Conference held during 5-21, June, 2001 was as follows: -

- (i) (a) Report of the Chairman of the Governing Body
- (b) Report of the Director General
- (ii) Global Report under the Follow-Up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work
- (iii) Programme and Budget and Other Questions

(iv) Information and Reports on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations.

(v) Safety and Health in Agriculture (second discussion)

(vi) Promotion of Cooperatives (first discussion)

(vii) Social Security-Issues, Challenges and Prospects (general discussion)

22.2 As in the previous years, a Tripartite Delegation led by Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya, the then Union Labour Minister, was deputed to attend the 89th Session of the International Labour Conference. The composition of the Indian Delegation was as given below:-

S.No.	Name & Designation	Status
(i)	Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya, Union Labour Minister.	Visiting Minister and Leader of the Delegation.
(ii)	Shri. Muni Lall, Union Minister of State for Labour and Employment.	Visiting Minister.
(iii)	Shri. Bhupendra G.Lakhawala, Labour Minister, Government of Gujarat.	Visiting Minister
(iv)	Shri. Balramji Das Tandon, Labour Minister, Government of Punjab.	Visiting Minister
(iv)	Shri. Raghuvar Das, Labour Minister, Government of Jharkhand.	Visiting Minister
(v)	Shri. Prabhakar Singh, OSD to L.M.	Accompanying Union Labour Minister
GOVERNMENT GROUP		
(i)	Shri. Vinod Vaish, Secretary(Labour).	Delegate

S.No.	Name & Designation	Status
(ii)	Smt. Uma Pillai, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Labour.	Adviser
(iii)	Shri. K. Chandramouli, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Labour.	Adviser
(iv)	Shri. C.A.Bhaskaran, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Labour.	Adviser
WORKERS' GROUP		
(i)	Shri.K.J.Thakkar, Vice- President, BMS.	Delegate
(ii)	Shri Ramchandra Khuntia, MP, Vice President, INTUC.	Adviser
(iii)	Shri. Mukund Gore, Secretary, BMS.	Adviser
(iv)	Dr. M.K.Pandhe, General Secretary, CITU.	Adviser
(v)	Shri. K.L.Mahendra, General Secretary, AITUC.	Adviser
(vi)	Shri. P.S.Saha, Secretary, UTUC (LS).	Adviser
(vii)	Shri Umraomal Purohit, General Secretary, HMS.	Adviser
EMPLOYERS' GROUP		
(i)	Shri. Arvind Doshi, President, EFI.	Delegate
(ii)	Shri.I.P.Anand - Member, ILO Governing Body and alternate Adviser for Shri M.A. Hakeem	Adviser
(iii)	Shri. S.S.Agarwal, National President, LUB	Adviser
(iv)	Shri. M.A.Hakeem General Secretary, SCOPE	Adviser
(v)	Shri. B.P.Pant, Adviser, AIOE	Adviser
(vi)	Shri. Suresh Deora, General Secretary, AIMO.	Adviser
(vii)	Shri Sharad Patil, Secretary, Employers Federation of India.	Adviser
(viii)	Shri D.K. Verma, Chairman, SCOPE.	Adviser

22.3 As in the past, from the Permanent Mission of India, Geneva, Ms. Savitri Kunadi, Permanent Representative as Government Delegate and Shri Sharat Sabharwal, Deputy Permanent Representative and Shri. Kumar Tuhin, First Secretary as Advisers joined the Delegation.

22.4 Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya, Union Labour Minister and Shri. Muni Lall, Minister of State for Labour and Employment participated in the Plenary discussions. In his well attended speech made in the Plenary on 14th June 2001, Dr. Jatiya made the following points: -

- (i) While recognizing the importance of decent work, equal importance must be given to social and skill globalisation.
- (ii) International Labour Organisation should endorse and facilitate skill development and skill up-gradation in the developing countries, which would lead to globalisation of skills.
- (iii) A favourable atmosphere to achieve an understanding amongst nations to allow free flow of skills along with capital should be created.
- (iv) Labour standards should not be linked with trade under any circumstances.

22.5 Shri Muni Lall, Minister of State for Labour and Employment drew attention to India's long tradition of fighting for peace, equality, freedom and social justice since times immemorial from the time of Lord Buddha to the modern ages. He pointed out the remarkable parallels between the philosophy of the ILO and the values upheld by the Republic of India. Reconciling growth with equity in a free and open society, especially in an era of global interdependence, is not an easy task, and the Decent Work agenda and the perceived gaps in decent work have to be seen in this context, the Hon'ble Minister mentioned. Since one of the most practical and sure ways to minimize poverty is to create employment in the developing and least developed countries, he urged the ILO to ensure that multilateral institutions and developed countries provide unstinting support which is in no way linked to trade or labour standards.

22.6 Shri Arvind Doshi, Employer Delegate and Shri K.J. Thakkar, Worker Delegate from India also participated in the plenary

discussions of the Conference.

22.7 The Follow-up to the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 86th Session (1998) calls on the Director –General to draw up a report to provide every year a dynamic global picture relating to the implementation of one of the four categories of fundamental principles and rights. Accordingly, the Conference in a special sitting on 15th June 2001 discussed a Global Report entitled “ Stopping Forced Labour”. The Report inter-alia points out that forced labour is a universally condemned phenomenon. Yet, the elimination of its numerous forms remains one of the most complex challenges facing local communities, national Governments, Employers' and Workers' organisations and the international community.

22.8 The Global Report indicates that India has been regularly providing statistics on bonded labourers who have been identified, released and rehabilitated by the State Governments take into cognizance the fact that India has been able to eradicate bonded labour, organized special set up at the State and District levels to ensure an integrated approach to identify and release and rehabilitate the bonded labour in the country through extensive efforts. It also discusses the role of the Supreme Court of India in defining and tackling the problem of bonded labour and also the role of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the findings of the National Commission on Rural Labour etc.

22.9 Shri Vinod Vaish, Union Labour Secretary, who addressed the Plenary on 15th June, 2001, complimented the Director General for bringing out a comprehensive and wide- ranging report 'Stopping Forced Labour' reflecting both in spirit and in action the ILO's deep commitment to the elimination of forced labour and to the furtherance of the principles of core labour standards. He drew the attention of the participants to the portion of the Global Report relating to the Indian experience. He mentioned that an important feature of the Indian experience, which had not been sufficiently highlighted in the Report was the existence of an open, democratic society, a written Constitution, an independent and pro-active judiciary, an independent press with complete freedom of expression and above all, an alert Parliament. This provided the strongest protective shield and real hope to the victims

of debt bondage. He also appreciated the acknowledgement in the Report that India is one of those countries, which has recognized the problem of forced labour and taken action in the right direction. He hoped that the ILO could play a significant role in eradication of forced labour by helping to create necessary awareness and launch and support programmes for identification and documentation of related information particularly in countries where remedial steps had not yet been initiated. Dr. M.K. Pandhe, Workers' representative and Shri I.P. Anand, Employers' representative from India also addressed the Special Sitting of the Plenary.

22.10 The remaining items of the work in the agenda were considered in detail in separate Conference Committees, which met simultaneously and separately, parallel to the Plenary sittings of the Conference.

22.11 In his second Statement delivered at the Asia and Pacific Labour Ministers' Meeting on "Globalisation and Employment: Asia and Pacific Situation" on 13th June, 2001, the Hon'ble Union Labour Minister reiterated the need for creating a favourable environment for skill globalisation for achieving the goal of social globalisation. While concerns about core labour standards are very important, equally, if not more, important are investments in education, skill training, monitoring of Labour Market information and vocational guidance. He pointed out the urgent need to pursue efforts in favour of generation of employment for youth by removing barriers to business, entrepreneurship and also help the micro and small enterprises to start up, grow and improve working conditions.

22.12 The third Statement made by the Hon'ble Union Labour Minister on 12th June 2001 was addressed to the Labour Ministers of Non-Aligned and developing countries who had assembled in Geneva to attend the 89th Session of the International Labour Conference. Addressing the Labour Ministers of Non-Aligned and developing countries, the Hon'ble Labour Minister, Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya, said that while globalisation and economic liberalization has boosted the trade and business in developing countries, it had led to decrease in employment opportunities and business in developing countries. He indicated that issues like child labour, bonded labour, etc. are very sensitive from the social point of view and that these can be included

under the Technical Cooperation Support of ILO through regular budget.

22.13 The Committee on Application of Standards is one of the Standing Committees of the International Labour Conference. This Committee is also a part of the ILO Supervisory System to review the compliance of the member countries on the obligations arising out of the ILO Constitution as well as ratified ILO Conventions.

22.14 It may be mentioned here that India has already ratified four of the eight core Conventions viz. the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), the Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No.100), the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957(No.105), and the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No.111). India is also holding extensive discussions with the concerned Ministries, Departments and other relevant authorities and taking them into confidence about the need for ratification of Convention No. 182 concerning Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

22.15 In the Conference Committee on Application of Standards, the situation of forced labour (including bonded labour, child labour and prostitution and trafficking) in India was discussed wherein the Indian Delegation was required to clarify the steps taken by the Government of India to assess the dimension of the problem as well as the remedial and preventive measures taken by the Government. Shri Vinod Vaish, Secretary (Labour) and Government Delegate, participated in the deliberations of the Committee. He informed the Committee that India had a strong will and intent to abolish and totally banish the age old and pernicious system of bonded labour and has the necessary machinery and infrastructure to reach down to the grass root level to do so. He argued that bonded labour being a dynamic problem, its existence could occur and reoccur at any point of time in any industry/occupation, thus making continuous vigilance and surveillance and institutional arrangements for entertaining grievances received from those who are working and living under conditions of bondage, imperative. Shri Vaish clarified to the Committee that the problem of child labour continues to be a matter of great concern for the Government of India. He explained various steps taken by the

Government of India for eradication of child labour in the country and mentioned that the objective was convergence of all social schemes in such areas as education, health and income generation activities and that gaps in the existing schemes were being identified to be adequately taken care of through schemes such as enhanced vocational training, regular health checks and other important social interventions for children attending schools set up under the project. He emphasized that the only way to eliminate child labour was by mainstreaming children into formal schools where they can be provided education and a chance to choose their preferred vocation and that the elimination of child labour would have to be a sequential process, concentrating initially on the most hazardous forms of work.

22.16 While apprising the Committee of the various initiatives taken by the Government of India to combat trafficking in women and children, he mentioned that the incidence of prostitution being related to the low status of women in the society, the Government was implementing various programmes for the economic empowerment of women, including a programme to provide micro-credit to poor women in the informal sector, in addition to development of a number of support services including short-stay homes, crèches and family counselling centres and awareness programmes for women to disseminate information on their rights. He informed the Committee that the Government of India had also taken the lead in seeking the cooperation of neighbouring countries of Nepal and Bangladesh in combating the problem of cross-border trafficking of persons.

22.17 In conclusion, Secretary (Labour) emphasized that Government had continued to provide written and oral reports to the ILO on the questions raised by the supervisory bodies. India had adopted an open attitude to the question and had set up the necessary institutional arrangements. He, therefore, called for the understanding and the appreciation of the Committee in relation to the problems experienced and called upon it not to overlook the need to address the underlying causes of the problems, which lay principally in the large-scale unemployment in the country and the very large informal sector. Without effective action to combat poverty, it would be very difficult to tackle these problems effectively.

COMMITTEE ON SAFETY AND HEALTH IN AGRICULTURE

22.18 Under the double discussion procedure of the ILO, the Committee on Safety and Health in Agriculture held its second and final stage of discussion leading to the adoption of a Convention supplemented by a Recommendation on the preventive, protective and welfare measures for the Safety and Health of agricultural workers. The Convention and Recommendation are significant because agriculture is assessed as the third most dangerous occupation in the world, next to mining and construction.

22.19 Shri. K. Chandramouli, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Labour represented the Government of India in the Committee. Shri R.C. Khuntia, M.P. and Shri S.S. Aggarwal represented the Workers' group and Employers' group respectively from India.

22.20 The main issues that were taken up for discussion by the Committee included the following: the flexibility of the Convention itself; self-employed farmers; information to farmers on hazards; the language in which information is to be provided to the affected and concerned; machinery and equipment; obsolete chemicals; biological risks; insurance against injuries and diseases; and, welfare facilities at no cost to the workers.

22.21 The Indian delegation mentioned that in India there is no comprehensive coverage of all aspects of safety and health of agricultural workers in any of its present legislations. Any protection of this large segment of the population would be welcome.

22.22 When the Report of the Committee was submitted to the Plenary, Shri. Balramji Das Tandon, Labour Minister of Punjab made an intervention welcoming the proposed Convention on Safety and Health in Agriculture. The Convention was adopted in the Plenary of the Conference with an overwhelming majority.

COMMITTEE ON PROMOTION OF COOPERATIVES

22.23 With a view to standard setting under the double discussion procedure of the ILO, the first discussion on the issue of Promotion of Cooperatives took place in the context of considerable worldwide changes in cooperative development in recent years. The

existing Recommendation (No.127) has a number of limitations in this changed scenario. These limitations could be addressed by the adoption of a new instrument, which would allow cooperatives to address more effectively a range of socio-economic problems such as employment and social exclusion. Majority of the countries had suggested that the new instrument should be in the form of a Recommendation which could provide guidance on policy, legislation and practice for ILO member States.

22.24 India was represented in the Committee by Shri. Bhupendra G Lakhawala, Minister of Labour, Government of Gujarat, Shri. K.L. Mahendra, General Secretary, AITUC and Shri Mukund Gore, Secretary, BMS, Shri Sharad Patil, Secretary, EFI and Shri. C.A. Bhaskaran, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Labour.

22.25 During the course of discussion in the Committee, Shri Bhupendra G. Lakhawala, Labour Minister of Gujarat mentioned that in India, cooperatives had a long history, and cooperative development had been a central element of economic development strategy. In India, cooperatives play an important role in agricultural credit, fertilizer supply and sugar production. The Committee agreed to some of the amendments put forward by the Indian delegation concerning access by cooperatives to markets and finance and women's participation in cooperatives.

22.26 Some of the important conclusions adopted are: promotion of gender equality in cooperatives and in their work; facilitating access to cooperatives; facilitating access of cooperatives to markets; and, defining legal obligations concerning cooperatives in areas such as registration, financial and social audits, etc.

COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SECURITY

22.27 The Committee took up the agenda of "Social Security: Issues, challenges and prospects" for general discussion. The objective of the general discussion was to establish an ILO vision of social security responsive to the new issues and challenges facing social security at a time of rapid economic, social and demographic changes.

22.28 Smt. Uma Pillai, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Labour represented the Government of India in the Committee. The employers' and workers' representatives also participated in the deliberations.

22.29 The Indian delegation, while explaining the present situation obtaining in India regarding provision of social security to the workers and the schemes in the pipeline, suggested that the ILO could consider supporting innovative pilot schemes for the various segments of unorganized sector, which if found successful, could be adapted to suit different situations and replicated.

22.30 When the final Report was being adopted in the Plenary, Shri. Raghuwar Das, Hon'ble Labour Minister of Jharkhand made a statement mentioning that social security is a key ingredient in the goal of decent work and, therefore, there is a need for linkage between employment and social protection policies. He also emphasized the need to focus attention on the workers of the unorganized sector in the developing countries.

22.31 The final Report adopted by the Conference proposed *inter-alia* that a major campaign should be launched to promote the extension of coverage of social security and called upon governments to give the issue of social security a higher priority and offer technical assistance in appropriate cases.

THE ILO GOVERNING BODY MEETINGS

280th Session of Governing Body of the ILO (8th to 30th March, 2001)

22.32 A delegation consisting of the following officers was deputed to participate in the deliberations of the 280th Session of the Governing Body of the ILO:

- (i) Shri. Vinod Vaish, Secretary, Ministry of Labour
- (ii) Shri. C.A. Bhaskaran, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Labour

22.33 Ms. Savitri Kunadi, Indian Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the UN at Geneva and Shri. Kumar Tuhin, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of India (PMI), Geneva joined the Indian Delegation.

22.34 The Programme, Financial and Administrative (PFA) Committee held extensive discussions on the programme and budget proposals for the biennium 2002–2003. While the Indian delegation welcomed the strategic objectives and the emphasis placed by the ILO on resolving the social problems including those affecting millions of children, it called for according the highest priority and emphasis

on employment issues in view of the fact that the social progress and growth are contingent on employment generation.

22.35 The Committee on Technical Cooperation discussed ILO's proposed technical cooperation programmes envisaged during the biennium 2002 – 2003 which covers various aspects like employment policy, jobs and quality, training and skills development, life - long learning as also ways and means of maximizing the out reach of technical cooperation activity. The discussions centred around making training for employment more meaningful and demand-driven than donor-driven. The two specific subjects taken up for discussion were: (i) Thematic evaluation of the ILO projects on training for employment and (ii) Operational aspects of the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC). The Asia Pacific Group suggested that since ILO has gained significant experience in training the workers, such experience from successful programme implementation should be replicated and suitable training programmes for semi- skilled and even unskilled group of workers and would-be workers should be brought out. The Indian Delegation associated themselves with the statement made by the Asia – Pacific group and suggested that the training programmes should be based on the regional labour market requirements and that the withdrawal of external assistance for training programmes should be gradual so that the concerned State governments could step in and could take over the project.

22.36 The Committee on Employment and Social Policy deliberated on four important issues viz. (i) Overview of the Work of the Employment Sector, (ii) Human Resource Development, (iii) Global Employment Forum / World Employment Report, 2001 and (iv) The labour market and employment implications of the HIV / AIDS epidemic. The Indian Delegation associated themselves with the statement made by the Asia – Pacific Group with regard to the above issues which **inter-alia** mentioned that reduction of poverty as well as the promotion and extension of social protection systems to low - income families and informal sector workers should accompany economic globalization.

22.37 The thrust of the Indian Delegation's interventions on the issues mentioned in the preceding paragraphs could be briefly put as under:

- i. The Decent Work should be seen in the local context.
- ii. The Global Employment Forum should focus on region – specific policy recommendations for the promotion of employment and widening the social security cover.
- iii. The Government of India stressed the importance of education to impart ICT skills.

22.38 The Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues (STM) considered various issues including (i) Composition and purpose of sectoral meetings to be held in 2002, and (ii) Report of the Second Session of the Joint IMO / ILO Ad hoc Expert Working Group on Liability and Compensation regarding claims for death, personal injury and abandonment of seafarers, held in London in October – November, 2000.

22.39 The Committee on Legal Issues and International Labour Standards (LILS) considered and deliberated upon a number of important issues including revision of the rules for regional meetings and possible improvements in the standards – related activities of the ILO.

22.40 On the issue of ILO's standards - related activities, the Indian Delegation expressed their full support to the statement made by the Asia and Pacific Group and welcomed the recognition of the need for the reforms of the standards – related activities of the ILO including the supervisory system. The delegation's statement mentioned that rather than tackling only the reporting over load aspect, India favoured a comprehensive set of reforms as indicated in the statement of the Asia and Pacific Group.

22.41 The Working Party on the Social Dimension of Globalization took up two main issues for discussion viz. (i) Poverty reduction and decent work in a globalizing world, and (ii) Proposed work to expand the knowledge base for the work of the Working Party.

22.42 The Indian Delegation in their intervention on the first item mentioned that one of the most important point for focus of the Working Party should be reduction of poverty, since a fundamental principle on which the International Labour Organisation is based, is "Poverty anywhere constitutes a danger to prosperity everywhere".

22.43 As regards the second item, the Indian Delegation mentioned that the results of globalisation have been mixed so far. While it has increased the volume of trade between countries, employment has been the worst affected area, especially in the developing countries. The impact of globalisation should be studied not only within countries but between countries also. Some countries have greatly benefited in trade as well as employment, whereas majority have faced social problems due to rise in unemployment and underemployment. The Indian Delegation pointed out that if these conflicting positions were not appreciated in the right perspective, it would be difficult to arrive at an agreement.

22.44 There was a general agreement during the discussions that poverty reduction was an important part of the ILO's mandate on the proposals included in the discussion paper to develop the decent work approach further with a view to increasing the ILO's effectiveness as a partner in the international community's efforts to achieve agreed development targets.

22.45 The Governing Body considered the agenda item concerning Developments in the United Nations. Intervening during the course of deliberations the Indian Delegation emphasized that by no stretch of imagination should ILO allow the arrangements envisaged by the special partnerships with other organizations to lead to the adoption of negative measures which would be totally out of line with the ILO approach. The Indian delegation expressed the hope that the DG, ILO would take care of this aspect.

22.46 On the question of high-level youth employment policy network, the Indian Delegation urged that the developing countries that are grappling with unemployment problems should be consulted by the Office suitably.

22.47 The Plenary Session of the Governing Body considered and adopted the Reports of the various Committees as well as substantive items relating to follow-up action on the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and measures taken by the Government of Myanmar to implement ILO Convention No.29 concerning Forced Labour and Agenda of the 2002 International Labour Conference.

22.48 The Indian Delegation was actively involved in the negotiation process of the Asia

and Pacific Group. The Delegation was successful in keeping many of our ideas and suggestions in the joint statements made by the Asia – Pacific Group. As in the past, the Delegation also played a very crucial role in arriving at agreements in the Group on many complex issues thereby enabling the Group to make joint statements on almost all-important issues.

282nd Session of the Governing Body Meetings (1-16 November, 2001.)

22.49 The 282nd Session of the Governing Body of the ILO was held at Geneva during 1st to 16th November, 2001. Shri. Vinod Vaish, Secretary (Labour), Smt. Uma Pillai, Additional Secretary (Labour) and Shri. C.A. Bhaskaran, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Labour attended the Meeting of the Governing Body and its Committees.

22.50 Ms. Savitri Kunadi, Indian Ambassador and Permanent Representative at Geneva, Shri. Sharat Sabharwal, Deputy Permanent Representative and Shri. Kumar Tuhin, First Secretary, PMI, Geneva joined the Indian Delegation from Geneva.

22.51 The Plenary Session of the Governing Body was preceded by the meetings of the various Committees and Working Parties from 1st to 12th November, 2001.

22.52 The Committee on Employment and Social Policy had on its agenda important issues of current relevance viz. (i) the Global Employment Agenda, (ii) Second World Assembly on Ageing, (iii) ILO's Relations with Bretton Woods Institutions and (iv) Report of the Tripartite Meeting of Experts on the Management of Disability at the Work Place held in October, 2001 in Geneva. Obviously, the most important among all the issues that came up for discussion in this Committee was the one relating to the Global Employment Agenda from many angles. Employment generation is an issue crying to be tackled by all the developing and least developed countries. This was also the subject of high level discussion for three days (1-3, November, 2001) in the Global Employment Forum organized by the ILO with the participation of 700 eminent political and economic world leaders who was addressed by the UN Secretary General Mr. Kofi Annan. The conclusions arrived at in the Global Employment Forum were reflected in the deliberations of the Committee on Employment

and Social Policy on the topic titled the 'Global Employment Agenda'. The Indian delegation agreed with the suggestion in the agenda paper that there was greater need for giving renewed emphasis on achieving acceptable outcomes in the face of job losses in the aftermath of the occurrences of 11th September, 2001. It was also mentioned that as far as India is concerned, employment has been one of the central areas of concern of planning in India. The Indian delegation particularly emphasised certain aspects raised during the Global Employment Forum held during 1-3 November, 2001. These were: (i) employment should be the central focus in development planning to be pursued keeping the growth of the labour force in mind, (ii) regular training and re-training should be given due emphasis to maintain the employability of the work force, and (iii) youth employment has to be viewed seriously, and related concerns should be incorporated in the development plans. We also supported the view that the international organizations should prepare a global stimulus and developed countries should encourage the import of agricultural and labour intensive commodities from the developing and under developed countries to help in addressing the problem of unemployment and moving towards decent work.

22.53 The next (second) World Assembly on Ageing is being organized in Madrid (Spain) in April, 2002 as a follow-up to the first one held in Vienna in 1982. While noting that the focus of the topic and supporting arguments in the agenda item revolved around the system and situations obtaining in developed countries, particularly European countries, and that references to Asian countries were scarce, the Indian delegation stressed that in India family links were still strong and relationships across generations were maintained in such a manner that older people would get assistance from the family.

22.54 When the issue regarding ILO's relations with Bretton Woods Institutions came up for discussion, the Indian delegation stressed the importance of continued structured and useful discussions on relations with them. We pointed out that globalisation was not yet working for the benefit of all and was imposing constraints on the autonomous capacity of the social partners to determine their own destiny through independent policies. We also emphasized the need for substantial support from the Bretton Woods

Institutions especially for employment generation and thus reducing unemployment.

22.55 The issues discussed by the Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues included the following: (i) Review of the sectoral activities programme (ii) Composition and purpose of the meeting concerning health services to be held in 2002 (iii) Effect to be given to the recommendations of various sectoral tripartite meetings held in 2001.

22.56 The Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee had before it information on 2000-01 regular budget account and position of the working capital as at October, 2001, details of voluntary contributions and gifts received since November, 1999, programme and budget proposals of the International Institute for Labour Studies for 2002-03, report of the 63rd Session of the Board of the International Training Centre of ILO held at Turin, Italy and proposals for 2002-03 for the extra budgetary accounts of the ILO.

22.57 The Committee on Technical Cooperation discussed ILO's technical cooperation programme during 2000-01, developments regarding technical cooperation activities in the United Nations system, and priorities and action plans under the Follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.

22.58 The Committee on Legal Issues and International Labour Standards considered the practical arrangements for examination of the ILO Global Report presented under the Follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, and reviewed the forms prescribed for annual reports. A statement was made on behalf of the Asia and Pacific Group on "examination of standards-related reporting arrangements." The Group reiterated its position that a discussion on the improvement in ILO standards-related activities should take place within a broader debate on all aspects of the ILO's standards-related activities and that such a comprehensive review of the ILO's standard-setting and supervisory mechanisms should only be done in the Governing Body. The Indian delegation, associating itself with the statement made by the Asia Pacific Group, highlighted the cumbersome nature of the reporting procedures and mentioned the plethora of problems being faced by countries

like India with a large geographical area, diverse population and different levels of development and the non-compatibility of national system of data collection and recording vis-à-vis those of the ILO.

22.59 Regarding the proposal to promote country-by-country programmes to resolve problems of application of Conventions and related questions, the Indian delegation, while supporting the stand taken by the Asia Pacific Group in the matter, the delegation underscored that reforms in the reporting arrangements could not be seen in isolation. We suggested that a holistic status report on the reforms in the entire standards-related process be placed in the next session of the Governing Body.

22.60 The extremely important Working Party on Social Dimensions of Globalisation met on Monday, the 12th November, 2001 under the Chairmanship of the Ambassador of Switzerland, Mr. Jean Jacques Elmiger. The Working Party considered three important issues viz:

- Enhancing the action of the Working Party on the social dimension of globalisation: Next steps
- Trade liberalisation and employment
- Developments in other organizations

Item No. (i) contained a proposal to appoint a World Commission of 18 eminent persons to study and make recommendations on the social dimension of globalisation. The Government delegate of Cuba presented a statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. The statement recalled that at its June 2001 meeting the Working Party had agreed that it should consider how to raise its technical capabilities on the complex subject of the social dimension of globalisation, the possibility of high level meetings, the parameters of a report and the options for setting up a Commission of eminent persons. The agenda paper, a product of extensive consultation, considered how a World Commission could be an effective way of delivering a major authoritative report on the social dimension of globalization.

22.61 Intervening in the discussions, the Indian delegation expressed the hope that the Chairman of the Working Party, while preparing his oral report, would take into account the

fear and concerns of the developing countries. The delegation also supported the views expressed by the Group of 77 and China in the matter. The delegation mentioned that removal of poverty through all possible ways including enhanced technical cooperation should be the prime target of all the proposed exercises because 70 percent of the world's poor are in the developing countries. Poverty reduction is the *sine qua non* for decent work. The delegation mentioned that the task ahead for the Working Party is very difficult and delicate and great care has to be taken about its constitution which will be at a very high cost. It should not turn out to be an ivory tower exercise. The World Commission should be a product of consensus so that it commands the respect of the International community. The delegation emphasized that the report of the Commission would be an input to the Working Party and that it is for the Working Party to guide and steer the issue. It expressed the hope that the views of the Group of 77 and China and those of India would be taken into account in the work of the Working Party in future.

22.62 The proposal of the Director General of ILO was approved subsequently by consensus by the Governing Body's Working Party. The Commission Members, who are expected to be named early next year, will participate in the formulation of a "major, authoritative report on the social dimension of globalization, including the interaction between the global economy and the world of work. The choice of members, to be appointed by the Director General, will include "eminent individuals with outstanding personal achievements and vision, participating in their individual capacity." The Commission report is expected to be submitted to the Governing Body at its March, 2003 Session.

22.63 The topic of "Trade Liberalization and Employment" highlighted a number of key issues like changing pattern of trade, concentration of the gains from trade among certain countries etc. It was decided that discussion on this subject would continue in March, 2002.

22.64 The third topic of "Developments in Other Organizations" gave a comprehensive overview of developments in other organizations which were often complementary to the ILO's own work. Some of the delegates pointed to the initiatives and statements

reported in the paper that were a cause of concern.

22.65 Intervening in the discussions, the Indian delegation mentioned that it was happy to note that ILO is being informed of the developments and thinking in other organizations. The delegation mentioned that while the developing countries have many concerns, they have no solutions. Making particular reference to paragraph 15 of the document relating to 'Report of the High-Level Panel on Financing for Development' wherein mention has been made of strengthening the ILO by providing it with instruments to enforce its standards and to impose economic sanctions, fines etc., the delegate mentioned that this is a process in which one looked forward to useful interaction with a view to disabuse such misplaced notions. The members of ILO have always believed that the Organisation has its own system of overseeing its own labour standards. The delegation disagreed with the thought process contained in the document and suggested that the same should be disabused. On the basis of the discussions that took place in Working Party, the Chairman gave an oral presentation to the Governing Body.

22.66 The Plenary of the Governing Body considered inter-alia: (i) Minutes of the 280th and 281st Sessions of the Governing Body (ii) Reports of the various Technical Committees which met earlier (iii) Proposals for the agenda of 92nd Session (2004) of the International Labour Conference (iv) Report and Conclusions of the Thirteenth Asian regional Meeting held in Bangkok during 28th-31st August, 2001, and (v) Developments concerning the question of the observance by the Government of Myanmar of the Forced Labour Convention, 1930.

22.67 When the Report and Conclusions of the 13th Asian Regional Meeting was taken up for discussion, the Indian delegation made an intervention and mentioned that one cannot escape noting and bringing to the notice of the Governing Body the special pro-active role required to be performed by the DG and the ILO in the region, which may be different from the their normal roles. The delegate also highlighted the fact that Asia has more than half of the world's population who are also the world's poorest. The Indian delegation supported the suggestion made by the workers' representative that there should be a

mid term assessment to monitor the results of action taken and steps that remain to be taken as a follow up of the decisions and conclusions of the Asian Regional Meetings. He also invited attention to the conclusions which highlighted the need for special action by way of guidelines and programmes aimed at preventing or at least significantly attenuating the negative impacts of the current economic slowdown. Among others, he also invited attention to the conclusions stressing the importance of employment generation as the central element in the decent work agenda as the principal means to reduce poverty, and the crucial need for providing multi-skilling, skills training and upgrading of skills for enhancing access to employment and improving productivity and competitiveness in the global economy. The Indian delegate also urged that while finalizing future work programmes of the ILO in the region, all the points contained in the conclusions of the Asian Regional Meeting should be taken into account.

22.68 The Governing Body discussed the report of the ILO High Level Team which visited Myanmar in September 2001 under the Chairpersonship of Sir Ninian Stephen of Australia to carry out an objective assessment of the forced labour situation in that country. After deliberations, the Governing Body called upon the Director General of ILO to provide technical assistance with the implementation of new legislation in that country, including eventual establishment of an ombudsman "to whom complaints regarding forced labour could be submitted and who would have a mandate and the necessary means to conduct investigations without fear or favour with the required confidence of all parties concerned."

22.69 As in the previous Sessions, the Indian delegation was actively involved in the negotiation process in the Asia Pacific Group. Many of our ideas and suggestions were included in the joint statements made by the Asia Pacific Group. We also played an important role in arriving at agreements in the Group on many complex issues thereby enabling the Group to make joint statements on all important issues.

13th Asian Regional Meeting organised by the ILO at Bangkok (28th –31st August, 2001)

23.70 A Delegation led by the Hon'ble Union Labour Minister, Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya,

participated in the deliberations of the 13th Asian Regional Meeting organized by ILO at Bangkok during 28th – 31st August, 2001. The other members of the Indian Delegation were:

- (i) Shri Vinod Vaish, Secretary Ministry of Labour.
- (ii) Shri C.A. Bhaskaran, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Labour.
- (iii) Shri K.J. Thakkar, Worker Delegate.
- (iv) Shri I.P. Anand, Employer Delegate.
- (v) Ms. Leela Ponappa, the Indian Ambassador to Thailand and Permanent Representative to ESCAP, and
- (vi) Other senior officials from the Indian Mission in Thailand.

22.71 The agenda for the meeting was the Report of the Director General of the ILO. The Report titled '**Decent Work in Asia**' brought out many facets of the complex ILO mandate in a manner relevant to the challenges and opportunities the Asia Pacific Region will face in the 21st Century. The Report, encompassing all the four interdependent and strategic objectives of the Decent Work agenda viz. Standards, Employment, Social Protection and Social Dialogue facilitated a constructive debate and allowed forward looking conclusions to address the adverse effects of globalisation.

22.72 The Hon'ble Labour Minister, in his general statement at the beginning of the Plenary Session of the Meeting, while appreciating the comprehensive report of the Director General, mentioned that the concept of Decent Work had to be fixed keeping in mind the conditions of work in the social, economic and cultural context of each country. He made it clear that India, a progressive democracy, was committed to the fundamental principles contained in the important Conventions of the ILO. He mentioned that in our parliamentary democracy, social dialogue was a very accepted factor and important social and economic issues are discussed with the social partners at the highest level. Referring to the four strategic objectives of the Decent Work concept, he mentioned that in order to attain Decent Work, the first imperative was that employment should be made available to everyone and it was only after this that measures conforming to Decent Work conditions would be possible. He also drew the attention of the delegates to the fact that it

was essential that new opportunities for employment generation should be explored and massive efforts should be made for the training of unskilled workers of the developing countries. Only skill upgradation would be able to generate favourable conditions for Decent Work. Similarly, social security was an important dimension that could not be overlooked because Decent Work was irrevocably linked with social security. He also reiterated that Decent Work, including labour standards, should not be linked with trade issues in any form.

22.73 There was strong agreement among the member countries of the region on various issues like the need to focus on employment creation and promotion for generating growth with equity and an actual sustainable solution to reducing poverty the strong economic and socially stabilizing role played by social dialogue for the economies beleaguered by the Asian Financial Crisis, Children and right for prohibition and development and the rights of migrant workers.

22.74 Shri Vinod Vaish, Secretary (Labour) participated in the Tripartite Panel discussion on standards, rights at work and social dialogue and requested the participants to recognize the concerns of various countries of the region. He reminded them of the huge populations of the region who were affected by unemployment and underemployment and suggested that while talking of the four dimensions of the decent work, one had to talk of unemployment and poverty.

22.75 The Meeting also discussed the activities of the ILO in Asia during the period 1997-2000. It was recognized that in the years to come, employment generation must be placed at the forefront of the ILO technical cooperation, in view of the pervasive unemployment and poverty, accentuated by the informalisation of the economies in the region. The constituents urged the ILO to intensify assistance, as part of an integrated policy package, in human resource development, occupational safety and health, social protection, labour market information, mechanisms and capacities of the social partners. Other suggestions included formulation of a time bound programme on gender equality for implementation in the near future. This was inspired by the example of the time bound programme to eliminate the worst forms of child labour by IPEC.

22.76 The 13th Asian Regional Meeting was an important event to decide how the four strategic objectives of the Decent Work agenda could be implemented to eliminate the deficits in the region in the face of the changing world. The meeting also underlined the importance of tripartism and social dialogue in dealing with economic, employment and social

policies. The contribution of the tripartite Indian Delegation in the deliberations was recognized and appreciated both in the formal and informal fora.

22.77 India has so far ratified 39 out of the 184 Conventions of the ILO. A list of the ILO Conventions ratified by India is at Table 22.1.

Table 22.1

List of International Labour Organisation Conventions Ratified by India		
Sl. No.	No. and Title of Convention	Date of ratification
1.	No.1 Hours of Work (Industry) Convention, 1919	14.07.1921
2.*	No.2 Unemployment Convention, 1919	14.07.1921
3.	No.4 Night Work (Women) Convention, 1919	14.07.1921
4.	No.5 Minimum Age (Industry) Convention, 1919	09.09.1955
5.	No.6 Night Work of Young Persons (Industry) Convention, 1919	14.07.1921
6.	No.11 Right of Association (Agriculture) Convention, 1921	11.05.1923
7.	No.14 Weekly Rest (Industry) Convention, 1921	11.05.1923
8.	No.15 Minimum Age (Trimmers and Stokers) Convention, 1921	20.11.1922
9.	No.16 Medical Examination of Young Persons (Sea) Convention, 1921	20.11.1922
10.	No.18 Workmen's Compensation (Occupational Diseases) Convention, 1925	30.09.1927
11.	No.19 Equality of Treatment (Accident Compensation) Convention, 1925	30.09.1927
12.	No.21 Inspection of Emigrants Convention, 1926	14.01.1928
13.	No.22 Seamen's Articles of Agreement Convention, 1926	31.10.1932
14.	No.26 Minimum Wage-Fixing Machinery, Convention, 1928	10.01.1955
15.	No.27 Marking of Weight (Packages Transported by Vessels) Convention, 1929	07.09.1931
16.	No.29 Forced Labour Convention, 1930	30.11.1954
17.	No.32 Protection Against Accidents (Dockers) Convention (Revised), 1932	10.02.1947
18.@	No.41 Night Work (Women) Convention (Revised), 1934	22.11.1935
19.	No.42 Workmen's Compensation (Occupational Diseases) Convention (Revised), 1934	13.01.1964
20.	No.45 Underground Work (Women) Convention, 1935	25.03.1938
21.	No.80 Final Articles Revision Convention, 1946	17.11.1947
22.**	No.81 Labour Inspection Convention, 1947	07.04.1949
23.	No.88 Employment Services Convention, 1948	24.06.1959
24.	No.89 Night Work (Women) Convention (Revised), 1948	27.02.1950
25.	No.90 Night Work of Young Persons (Industry) (Revised), 1948	27.02.1950
26.	No.100 Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951	25.09.1958
27.	No.107 Indigenous and Tribal Population Convention, 1957	29.09.1958
28.	No.111 Discrimination (Employment & Occupation) Convention, 1958	03.06.1960
29.	No.116 Final Articles Revision Convention, 1961	21.06.1962
30.#	No.118 Equality of Treatment (Social Security) Convention, 1962	19.08.1964
31.@@	No.123 Minimum Age (Underground Work) Convention, 1965	20.03.1975
32.	No.115 Radiation Protection Convention, 1960	17.11.1975
33.	No.141 Rural Workers' Organisation Convention, 1975	18.08.1977
34.	No.144 Tripartite Consultation (International Labour Standards) Convention, 1976	27.02.1978
35.	No.136 Benzene Convention, 1971	11.06.1991
36.##	No.160 Labour Statistics Convention, 1985	01.04.1992
37.	No.147 Merchant Shipping (Minimum Standards), 1976	26.09.1996
38.	No.122 Employment Policy Convention 1964	17.11.1998
39.	No.105 Abolition of Forced Labour, 1957	18.05.2000

* Later denounced, The Convention requires, internal furnishing of statistics concerning unemployment every three months which is considered not practicable.

@ Convention denounced as a result of ratification of Convention No.89.

** Excluding Part II.

Branches (c) and (g) and Branches (a) to (c) and (i).

@@ Minimum Age initially specified was 16 years but was raised to 18 years in 1989.

Article 8 of Part - II.

SOURCE: - Ministry of Labour

TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMME

22.78 ILO and India have an enduring and active relationship which has been marked by close and dynamic cooperation over the years. India has been actively supporting and participating in ILO's Technical Cooperation Programmes.

ILO PROJECTS IN INDIA

22.79 ILO's technical cooperation in India covers various fields of relevance to Indian labour, such as employment, occupational safety & health, improvement in working conditions, upgradation of training facilities, management consultancy development, small enterprise programmes for women and the urban poor, family welfare programmes, vocational hi-tech training, workers' education etc.. A total of 18 projects in these and related areas are in various stages of implementation (Annexure-22.1).

22.80 I.L.O.'s technical assistance is also provided to India in conducting feasibility studies, design of projects and in the organisation and implementation of training programmes and workshops where I.L.O. experts function as resource persons. Under the new Active Partnership Policy of the I.L.O., collaboration between the I.L.O. and India is supported by technical inputs from the multidisciplinary teams in New Delhi (ILO-SAAT) and regional Office in Bangkok as well as by technical departments at the I.L.O. Headquarters. During the year, technical specialists provided advisory services in international labour standards, statistics and also discussed areas of possible collaboration in future. The Government, along with Workers' & Employers' Organisations, worked closely with the I.L.O. in identifying

the major country objectives for the ensuing years. The main focus of the exercise was to promote employment and social protection in the process of restructuring of the economy, elimination of child labour, management of working conditions and occupational safety and health in high risk areas.

INDIA'S ASSISTANCE TO ILO

22.81 The ILO has made use of the training facilities available in a number of institutions in India including Central Labour Institute (Mumbai), Regional Labour Institutes (Kolkata, Kanpur & Chennai), the Vocational Training Institutes under the Directorate General of Employment and Training, the Indian Institutes of Management and Indian Institutes of Technology. During the year 2000, 19 foreign fellows from developing countries were trained on ILO fellowships in these institutions (Annexure-22.2).

22.82 India also provides technical manpower for ILO's activities. Several national experts were awarded contracts for undertaking studies in various fields (Annexure-22.3).

ILO MEETINGS ATTENDED BY INDIA

22.83 During 2000-2001, India participated in 18 National meetings and 17 International meetings organised by ILO (Annexure-22.4).

PARTICIPATION IN OVERSEAS TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS etc.

22.84 During the year, 8 officers were deputed for training, workshops, seminars and meetings under the fellowships provided by the ILO, UNDP and Technical Cooperation Development Programmes. A list of International meetings attended by India during the year 2001 is at Annexure-(22.5).

The main country programmes under implementation in India are:

Strategic Objective No. 1: Promote & Realize Fundamental Principles And Rights at Work

(i) International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC):

This programme, started in 1992, has so far implemented around 120 action programmes and 80 mini programmes, targeting 100,000 child labourers. directly and many more indirectly. Amongst the other significant achievements of the programme have been the placing of child labour issues in the forefront of the national agenda and providing a national platform for all groups interested in the elimination of child labour. This has helped the process for building a mass movement against child labour in India.

IPEC supports removal of child labour. Rehabilitation of children, educational mainstreaming, capacity building, sustainability of ongoing projects, awareness generation, monitoring and evaluation, etc. are other areas of focus in the IPEC programme.

(ii) Integrated Area-Specific Approaches against Hazardous and Exploitative Forms of Child Labour :

Since 1998, IPEC has focussed on large and comprehensive projects in identified hazardous sectors such as gem-cutting and polishing in Jaipur, cotton and textile industry in Tirupur, match and fireworks industry in Sivakasi, carpet industry in Mirzapur and glass industry in Ferozabad.

(iii) Andhra Pradesh State-Based Project for the Elimination of Child Labour:

This DFID-funded project aims at substantial reduction of children in labour in Andhra Pradesh through the development and implementation of replicable, pilot interventions. It includes a specific component in the stone quarries in the same state.

(iv) Combating child labour and economic exploitation among adolescents in the sericulture industry in Karnataka :

This 3-year Italian funded project (budget US\$ 3.2 million) follows the Integrated Area-specific approach against hazardous and exploitative forms of child labour (IASA). This approach takes the institutional framework of the National Child Labour Project Societies (NCLPs) as a starting point and is guided by a holistic and integrated understanding of child labour and the need to combat it through a multi-pronged and coherent strategy. The project has the following five components: a) Prevention and withdrawal of child labour through awareness raising and education; b) Income generation through skills training and self-employment promotion; c) Modular-based vocational training; d) Upgrading local industries for better working conditions and child labour free production; and e) Strengthening NCLPs and State level institutions.

(v) The US DOL - Indian MOL co-funded project on child labour

The US DOL - Indian MOL co-funded project on child labour with contribution of US\$ 20m from each side which will focus on 4 states of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu to begin with. The hazardous sectors are brick kilns, quarries, glass ware/bangles, matches, brassware, beedis, locks, footwear, fireworks and silk yarns.

Strategic Objective No. 2: Create Greater Opportunities For Women And Men to Secure Decent Employment And Income

(i) Decent Employment for Women in India:

A joint statement of cooperation was signed between the US Department of Labour and the Indian Ministry of Labour (MOL). This 2-year pilot programme which was started in September, 2001 works with the Directorate of Vocational Training for Women in the Ministry of Labour. The focus of the programme is to extend the existing services provided by selected vocational training institutes towards women with low educational opportunities working in the informal sector who are identified to be under the poverty line. The programme is being implemented through the Ministry of Labour and the affiliated National Vocational Training Institute for Women in Delhi, the Regional Vocational Training Institute for Women in Bangalore, the VV Giri National

Labour Institute (VVGNI) and through identified selected NGOs. Through this intervention, the MOL, the VVGNI and the training institutes and NGOs in the two areas will expand their competence to develop training materials and provide vocational, life skill training, counselling and placement to a new target group: women workers in the informal sector.

(ii) INDISCO: Inter-regional Programme to Support Self-reliance of Indigenous and Tribal Communities through Cooperatives and other Self-help Organizations:

Pilot projects for a period of 5 years have been undertaken in the tribal regions of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Orissa, along with partner NGOs as implementing agencies in the field. This programme's basic aim has been participatory and thereby empowerment of the tribals' income generation through - i) capacity building by skills upgradation in natural resource management and other income-generating activities, micro-credit by way of a revolving loan fund and ii) institution building at village level, i.e., self-help groups, mahila mandals, village development committees, etc. who are capacitated to take over management of all project activities and link up with local government support schemes for tribal development. Currently ILO is implementing activities focussing on the Socio-Economic Empowerment of Tribal People through the Cluster Level Approach in Orissa. INDISCO is also carrying out a study on disaster management and crisis coping and testing CIDA guidelines on integrating indigenous knowledge in environment impact assessments, project planning and implementation.

(iii) Pilot Project on Alternative Employment Opportunities for Beedi Women Workers in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu:

This action programme, being supported by the Gender Promotion Programme at ILO Headquarters, in general seeks to promote decent work opportunities for women workers involved in the beedi sector, especially home-based women beedi rollers. The pilot projects in the two chosen areas aim at improvement of working and living conditions of beedi women workers and creating employment and income opportunities in areas where employment in beedi work is decreasing. The socio-economic improvement of beedi women workers' conditions is expected to help reduce the incidence of child labour in selected areas. The programme will seek to develop linkages between its activities and local development and anti-poverty initiatives of the government, including the Beedi Workers Welfare Fund [(The Director-General (Labour Welfare)] prepared a paper on BWWF at the inception of the programme).

(iv) Prevention of Family Indebtedness with Micro-finance Schemes and Related Services:

The India component of this project (the project covers India, Nepal, Bangladesh and Pakistan) started in November 2000. The project is a direct response to the recently adopted Convention 182 on The Worst Forms of Child Labour and the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work. It intends to induce existing microfinance institutions to develop, test and offer savings and loan products, particularly tailor-made for vulnerable families on the verge of getting bonded, already bonded, or after their release, to support their rehabilitation. The implementation of the project has started in Andhra Pradesh. Apart from continued dialogue with ILO constituents and the search for solutions that are mutually agreeable, the project seeks cooperation with NGOs that have a wide knowledge of the subject as well as experience in implementing micro finance schemes.

(v) Programme for Entrepreneurship Development and Productivity Improvement (PEDPI) in Moradabad Brassware Industry :

An enterprise upgradation programme for brassware and metalcraft industry has been initiated in Moradabad by focusing on improvement of productivity and competitiveness. It is estimated that more than 80 per cent of the total brassware products and 33 per cent of total handicraft exports from India originate from Moradabad. Nearly 70% of the value addition in the brassware manufacturing is contributed by more than 25000 small and household units supporting the Moradabad brassware industry. Despite increases in production and exports, productivity continues to remain low, often as a result of poor working environment, particularly in the household units and small workshops. The major thrust of this pilot programme is to demonstrate the effect of qualitative change in working environment and business practices on productivity and competitiveness of the Moradabad brassware.

(vi) Preparatory Assistance to the Formulation and Launching of an Urban Informal Sector Support Programme in India:

This SPPD-funded preparatory phase focuses on critical features of the Indian “informal economy”. The project involves three sector-specific areas: handicrafts in Orissa consisting of filigree work, wood-carving, stone carving, applique work and Pattachitra paints; scrap collecting, trading and recycling in Pune in Maharashtra; and construction workers in Delhi. The critical aspects of the socio-organisational structure and terms of trade operative amongst various role-players involved in the production - distribution chain of these sectors as well as raised crucial policy issues relating to statutory - implementation, gender discrimination, occupational health and social security. The Project has also entailed interesting interventions related to organisation of workers, thrift and credit, gender empowerment and social protection.

(vii) ILO’s Response to the Gujarat Earthquake:

The ILO Office in India has received funds and assistance from the Employment Sector in ILO headquarters to design a programme of assistance in 10 villages in the Kutch. The project partner will be SEWA, as the ILO already had a women’s income security and employment project with SEWA in the Kutch. The earthquake rehabilitation project will address the reconstruction of family housing from an employment generation aspect, as well as re-establishing the women’s livelihoods through their handicrafts. The initial funding comes from ILO headquarters, but it will be necessary to find a door for the successive stages.

Strategic Objective No. 3: Enhance the Coverage and Effectiveness of Social Protection for All

(i) Community Wide Demand Reduction in India :

The project aims at establishing an infrastructure of a Government-based National Centre for Drug Abuse Prevention and 5 NGO-based Regional Resource and Training Centres to mobilise community-based organizations and enterprises to reduce and prevent drug abuse on a nation-wide scale and on a sustainable basis by directly targeting more than 2 million persons with a large share belonging to groups vulnerable to drug abuse.

(ii) Community Wide Demand Reduction in the North Eastern States of India:

This project, interlinked with the one above, aims at assisting the Government in establishing an infrastructure to initiate, support and sustain demand reduction activities in the north-eastern States of India and to launch such activities.

(iii) Developing a Comprehensive Strategy for Alternative Development in Illicit Opium Poppy Growing Areas of Arunachal Pradesh:

This SPPD-funded project, with a budget of \$129,000, will work with UNDCP and the Central Bureau of Narcotics

(iv) HIV/AIDS Prevention in the World of Work: A Tripartite Response:

This is a programme with US DOL funding. Funds have been received for the first phase of the programme, March-December 2001. The first phase intends to look into best practices in the workplace and undertake consultations with all actors to help develop a national action plan for prevention of HIV/AIDS in the world of work.

Strategic Objective No. 4: Strengthen Tripartism and Social Dialogue

(i) South Asia and Vietnam Project on Tripartism and Social Dialogue in Action (SAVPOT) :

This regional project is a follow-up of the ILO/Norway Project on Tripartism (APPOT) which commenced in 1992 and concluded in 1996. The 3 years project (1999-2002), funded by the Government of Norway, covers Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Vietnam. The aim of the project is to make tripartism and bipartism more able to address the new challenges of globalisation.

(ii) Integration of rural women workers into main stream of trade unions of rural workers organisations :

The earlier project, with its site office in Chennai, has completed in 4 southern states of India, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. The project has brought about a heightened trade unions awareness of women rural workers and has provided leadership and organising skills, resulting in an increased participation in their respective organisations. It worked with the most representative 10 plantation and rural workers organisations in south India. The project is now entering the second phase and is being extended to Madhya Pradesh for a further two years.

ANNEXURE-22.2

INCOMING STUDY VISITS/FELLOWSHIPS (2001)

1. Study tour of Members (13 fellows) of Uva Provincial Council from Sri Lanka, Hyderabad, 4 - 9 May, 2001
2. Fellowship Programme for Occupational Safety and Health Centre (OSHC) Officials from Nepal at CLI, Mumbai, starting from 18 June, 2001
 - (i) Micro-analytical techniques, six weeks for two technical officials from the OSHC : a) Mr. Y.R. Bhatta; and b) Mr. D.P. Sah
 - (ii) Basic occupational safety and health for four weeks to technical assistants from the OSHC: a) Mr. Y. Gharti; b) Mr. T.P. Bhattari; and c) Mr. B. Pun
 - (iii) Legal Officer at the Ministry of Labour and Transport Management one week: a) Mr. K.C. Dal Bahadur

ANNEXURE-22.3

FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMMES

TURIN CENTRE COURSES:

1. **Promoting Decent Work in the Informal Sector, (Turin - 2 - 12 April, 2001)**
Mr. Suryakant Bagal, General Secretary, Hind Mazdoor Sabha, Maharashtra State Council
2. **Discussions at Turin**
Mr. Uday Kumar Varma, Director, V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, 23 - 25 May, 2001
3. **Workers' Education Programme for International Trade Secretariat (ITS's), (Turin/Geneva: 11 - 22 June, 2001)**
Dr. Rajeev Sharma, IFBWW South Asia Sub Regional & Project Office, New Delhi
4. **Occupational Safety and Health Management, (Turin, 2 - 13 July, 2001)**
Mr. Mohan Kumar Ashwani, General Secretary, INTUC Gujarat Branch
5. **Training of Instructors on the Portworker Development Program, (20-31 August, 2001)**
Mr. Subrato Mukherjee, Indian Institute of Port Management, Calcutta
Mr. R. Jaymohan Pillai, Director, National Institute of Port Management, East Coast Road, Uthandi, Chennai-600119
6. **Improving Productivity through Good Practices in Human Resources Management (1 - 12 October)**
Col. J.S. Lamba
Mr. B.B. Mohanty

ANNEXURE-22.4

LIST OF NATIONAL SEMINARS - 2001**Strategic Objective No. 1: Promote & realize fundamental principles and rights at work**

1. Training workshop on the ILO's Mandate, the Declaration and International Labour Standards, 17-19 July, 2001, Hyderabad

Strategic Objective No. 2: Create greater opportunities for women and men to secure decent employment and income

1. Asia-Pacific Region Microcredit Summit Meeting of Councils, 1 - 5 February, 2001, New Delhi
2. Policy Workshop on the programme for small and micro enterprise development and productivity improvement (PEDPI) for building competitiveness of Moradabad brassware export oriented handicraft industry, 8 February, 2001, Moradabad
3. Workshop on Job Quality in Micro and Small Enterprises, 5 April, 2001, New Delhi
4. ILO/ Maharashtra State workshop on Convention of Scrap Collectors, 1 May, 2001, Pune

Strategic Objective No. 3: Enhance the coverage and effectiveness of social protection for all

1. Workshop on Ship Breaking and Safe Work, 14 - 15 May, 2001, Mumbai
2. ILO-DGFASLI Workshop on Safety, Health & Environment - A Priority Concern for Workers Representatives in Port Sector, 24 - 28 September 2001, Mumbai

Strategic Objective No. 4: Strengthen tripartism and social dialogue

1. ILO/EFI Meeting on New Industrial Policy Announced by the Government of Maharashtra, 3 March, 2001, Mumbai
2. Workshop on Second National Labour Commission (by INTUC)
3. Workshop on Strengthening Labour Court Administration in India Through Innovative Dispute Settlement Mechanisms, 11 - 13 July 2001, Bangalore
4. ILO/EFI workshop on "Enhancing Competitiveness in the New Business Environment", 3 - 4 August 2001, Mumbai
5. ILO/AIOE one-day workshop on "Restructuring Enterprises", 17 August 2001, Pune
6. Global Compact Management Needs Assessment Meeting, 6 August 2001, Bangalore
7. Global Compact Management Needs Assessment Meeting, 8 August 2001, New Delhi
8. Workshop on Strengthening Labour Court Administration in India through Innovative Dispute Settlement Mechanisms, 24 - 26 September 2001, Mussoorie
9. ILO-DGFASLI Workshop on Safety, Health & Environment - A Priority Concern for Workers Representative in Port Sector, 24 - 28 September 2001, Mumbai
10. IMI-ILO National Workshop on the Effects of Privatisation on Workers' and Trade Unions, PMI, 15 - 17 October 2001, NOIDA

ANNEXURE-22.5

LIST OF INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES - 2001

1. Tripartite Meeting on the Employment Impact of Mergers and Acquisitions in the Banking and Financial Services Sector, (Geneva, 5 - 9 February, 2001)
2. 280th Session of the Governing Body, (Geneva, 27 - 30 March)
3. Tripartite Meeting on Human Resources Development, Employment and Globalization in the Hotel, Catering and Tourism Sector, (Geneva, 2 - 6 April, 2001)

4. ILO Workshop on Strengthening Asia-Pacific Employers' Organizations to Enhance Competitiveness in the New Business Environment, (Turin, 3 - 11 May, 2001)
5. Tripartite Meeting of Experts on HIV/AIDS and the World of Work, (Geneva, 14 - 22 May, 2001)
6. ILO Regional Conference on Employment Creation and Cooperatives and Small Enterprises, (Bangkok, 16 - 18 May, 2001)
7. ILO/Japan Asian-Pacific Regional Seminar on Occupational Safety and Health Management Systems, (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 22 - 24 May, 2001)
8. Consultative Meeting on Crisis Response for Workers' and Employers' Delegates, Salle III, (ILO Geneva, 18 June, 2001)
9. ILO/APSDEP/Korea Training Course on Computer-Aided Instruction, (Inchon, Republic of Korea, 2 - 27 July, 2001)
10. 13th Asian and Pacific Regional Meeting, (Bangkok, 28-31 September, 2001)
11. Technical Meeting on ILO/APSDEP Activities, (Bangkok, Thailand, 8-9 October, 2001)
12. Tripartite Meeting of Experts on the Management of Disability at the Workplace, (Geneva, 3 - 12 October, 2001)
13. ILO/Japan Asian Meeting on the trafficking of children labour and sexual exploitation (Manila, Philippines, 10 - 12 October, 2001)
14. ILO / APSDEP / JAPAN Workshop on New Training Technologies: The Development and Application of New Training Technologies, (OVTA, Chiba, Japan, 10 - 19 October, 2001)
15. Inter-regional Tripartite Workshop on Employment and Working Conditions in the Gemstone Cutting and Polishing Industry, (Bangkok, 20 - 22 November)

Photo 15

ANNUAL REPORT 2001-2002

PART-I
(LABOUR)



MINISTRY OF LABOUR
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

ANNUAL REPORT

2001-2002

PART-II
(EMPLOYMENT & TRAINING)



MINISTRY OF LABOUR
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA