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**17th march 2008 – Employment generation schemes**

**Press Trust of India 17th march 2008**

Govt formulates programme to solve unemployment problem New Delhi, Mar 17 (PTI)

The government has formulated a programme to resolve the problem of unemployment by promoting labour based industries in the 11th five year plan, the Lok Sabha was informed today.

Minister for Labour and Employment Oscar Fernandes said “In order to make growth more inclusive, it is vital that more people gain access to more productive assets with which they can themselves generate decent incomes and also that GDP growth generates sufficient demand for wage labour so that those who cannot be self employed are employed at decent wages”. ”

Targeting faster growth in GDP and doubling of agriculture growth will help in this process. Besides, additional employment opportunities would be generated in the services and manufacturing sectors. Measures would need to be taken to boost labour intensive service sectors such as food processing, leather products, footwear and textiles and service sectors such as tourism and construction,” he said.

To a separate question, Fernandes said “West Bengal government has launched the State Assisted Scheme of Provident Fund for unorganised workers for both employed and self employed workers in the unorganised sector”. “The state Assisted Scheme of provident fund for unorganised workers is specific to the state of West Bengal. Therefore, each state has to take a view whether they would want to adopt the scheme or not,” he said. PTI