From Director General's Desk

The overwhelming majority of rural people in the world depend on agriculture for their livelihood. It is more so in the context of developing countries, as approximately 3.1 billion people live in rural areas in the world. About 70 per cent of the world's poor live in rural areas on less than US $1.25 a day. Agriculture plays the most important role in the lives of these people. They eke out their livelihood from different farming activities and agricultural labour.

In this background, development of rural infrastructure and rationalization of input prices will be an important measure to reduce disparity in rural areas. Development of agro-infrastructure will induce production in agriculture particularly food grains. This has to be in combination with increasing access of the poor to the market, and also access to low priced inputs, social security measures and capacity development activities.

In India, it is necessary to make efforts to explore measures to improve the conditions of farmers and develop agriculture by proactive policy and programmes some of which are already in place. This may include protecting farmers from increasing input costs and falling output prices. In addition, asset ownership inequality in rural India has to be addressed urgently. Today, it is very uneven, jeopardizing development potential of the people on the margin. The top 5 per cent of the households in rural India own 36 per cent of the total value of assets, and the bottom 60 per cent of the households own only 15 per cent of the total value of assets. To obviate this scenario, three measures are most important — rapid economic growth, human capital formation and progressive elimination of inequalities in assets ownership by redistributing measures at all levels.

V. P. Yajurvedi
Address of the Mr. Abdul Gani Malik, Hon’ble Minister for Higher Education, Labour & Employment, Jammu & Kashmir

It gives me immense pleasure and honour to welcome you all to this four day orientation training programme on Implementation of Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 and Effective Enforcement of Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Services) Act, 1996, being held from October 11 - 14th, 2011. The Labour Department is entrusted with the task of implementation of hazardous situations and subjected to psychological and physical agony. Though the magnitude of this menace is far less in our state but it does exist, mostly among the slum population who migrate to the state of Jammu and Kashmir and shuttles here and there across the state. An illative posterior synthesis suggests prevalence of this menace by way of undertaking any kind of labour particularly in in-hygienic workplaces, streets, dabhas and garbage dumbs etc. Since by and large this happens out of their own volition and more so encouraged and motivated by their parents and guardians. Hence it becomes quite difficult to implement the child labour laws and regulate the conditions in such cases.

Steps are, therefore, underway to eradicate even the negligible part of it. In this endeavor, almost every civilian has a role and the Govt. has empowered officials from the lower rung to the highest levels to play their part. Chokidars, Panchayat Inspectors, BDOs, VLWOs, Assistant Labour Commissioners, Dy. Labour Commissioners and Dy. Commissioners of the districts have been conferred powers under various provisions of the said Act. State Level Advisory Board, District Level Vigilance Committees and District Level Rehabilitation Committees are in place. Special schools under National Child Labour Project are functional, numbering 11 in the districts of Udhampur and 6 in the districts of Srinagar. The said schools, somehow, in the district of Srinagar had come to a halt during past few years, however, the same have been made fully functional from 2009-10. Delegats from the Govt. of India also visited the said schools and expressed satisfaction in this regard.

We come across children below the age of 14 years, throughout the country, working in around 25 labour laws including tackling the child labour, their rehabilitation and welfare of construction workers. Although every enactment is important, but it may not be out of place to mention that the scenario of child labour and plight of construction workers do catch public eye. Therefore, the issues of eradication of child labour, their rehabilitation and welfare of construction workers have attained priority for the state Govt., through its Labour Department.
Govt. The Govt. of Jammu and Kashmir is also implementing Building and Other Construction Workers Act, 1996. J&K Construction Workers Welfare Board has been constituted in 2007 to look after the welfare of the workers under this unorganized sector. Welfare Schemes have been framed which include relief in the cases of injuries, death, disability, education of children and marriages etc. Registration of workers under this sector is in progress across the state. Collection of Cess has crossed Rs. 80 Crores. The officer/official trainees are functioning as Registering Officers, Cess Collectors and Inspectors under the said Act. Since the challenges are manifold on the implementation front in these two areas so a dire need was felt to equip the officers/Officials of the department with useful tools by way of training them under the auspices of the prestigious V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, Noida. The management of the Institute has not only been responsive and encouraging but kind enough to accept out request to conduct the programme at Srinagar instead of Noida, New Delhi. The training programme being the first of its kind in our state can not but be described as “Kuan Khud Chal Kar Pyasay Kay Pass Aagaya” (the well has come to the thirsty).

Hence it is a privilege and I hope that the trainees would benefit from this programme to the extent of excellence as the same would go a long way in enriching and improving their capacities and capabilities. I do hereby impress upon the trainees to be interactive and participative during the programme so as to be able to implement the respective laws optimally and deliver the services by way of various entitlements/ welfare measures guaranteed to labour class by the respective laws/schemes. I once again wish the entire programme a grand success.

Thank you.
Orientation Programme on Child Labour for NGOs implementing NCLP

The programme was conducted during September 20-23, 2011. Twenty-seven participants from different NGOs working on the issue of child labour were drawn from different districts namely Vadodara and Surat of Gujarat, Vishakhapatnam of Andhra Pradesh, Hazaribagh of Jharkhand, Korba, Bilaspur and Raipur of Chhattisgarh, Kajipana of Kolkata, Hooghly, Krishnanagar, Burdwa, Purba and West Midnapur of West Bengal attended the programme. The broad objectives of the Programme was to impart skills of identifying children at work for effective rehabilitation, to equip them with abilities to ensure retention of children in school, to develop understanding on the objectives and various aspects of NCLP and to share successful experiences of child labour prevention and elimination.

Workshop on Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour through NCLP: Role of Trade Unions

In collaboration with Building and Wood Workers International (BWI), the programme was conducted during October 19-21, 2011. The objective was (i) to understand share experiences and assess the implementation of NCLP in select districts of Bihar, Punjab, Rajasthan, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh; (ii) to strengthen linkages between key NCLP personnel and the trade unions to effectively address the prevalent child labour and (iii) to explore opportunities for further cooperation in effective implementation of the NCLP. Twenty Participants from Madhubani, Patna, Purnea and Banka Districts of Bihar, Agra and Allahabad Districts of Agra, Jodhpur District of Rajasthan and Bhubneshwar District of Odisha, attended the programme. The participants comprised of Officials of Labour Department, Education Department, Coordinators of State Resource Centres on Child Labour, Trade Union Leaders and Officials of Building and Wood Workers International.
Training Need Assessment Programme on Child Labour for Factory and Labour Inspectors of Project States ILO-IPEC Project on converging against Child Labour Support for India’s Model

The programme was conducted on October 17, 2011, at VVGNLI, Noida. Officials from Labour Department and Factories Department of the project states of Jharkhand, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Bihar, Coordinator of State Resource Centre on Child Labour, Uttar Pradesh, and select officials from the ILO attended the programme. The programme was conducted with the objective to enhance understanding on the situation of working children in the informal economy, children trafficked for labour and to assess the both cognitive and behavioural needs of Training for effective implementation of Child Labour Laws.

Summer Academy: Working Lives in Global History

V.V. Giri National Labour Institute jointly with Centre for Modern Indian Studies, University of Gottingen, Germany and IGK Work and Human Lifecycle in Global History, Humboldt University, Germany and association of Indian Labour Historians organised a Summer Academy: Working Lives in Global History at the V.V. Giri National Labour Institute during October 1-9, 2011. The programme was attended by 52 scholars and research students from different parts of the world.

The Summer Academy emphasised that regional and national research has the responsibility to approach the multifaceted cultural interconnections in and between societies in a globalized world. Therefore, the Summer Academy focused methodologically on a global and historical perspective systematically employing the approaches of comparison and connection.

Central questions related to the following themes were discussed during the Summer Academy: work and gender; household and reproduction; work and leisure; work schedule; precarious work; unemployment; non-work; labour mobility; work and public health; apprenticeship; work and technology; work and political interests (unions).

Prof. Andreas Eckert, Director, IGK re:work, Berlin addressing the Inaugural Session of the Summer Academy: Working Lives in Global History. Also seated are Shri V.P. Yajurvedi (Director General, V.V.G.N.L.I.), Prof. Ravi Ahuja (Director, Centre for Modern Indian Studies, Goettingen) and Dr. Prabhu Mohapatra (Secretary, Association of Indian Labour Historians)
Training Programme for Trade Union Leaders on Labour Laws (21-23 September, 2011, Mumbai)

A three-day non-residential Training Programme for Trade Union Leaders on Labour Laws was organised jointly by the V.V. Giri National Labour Institute and Ambekar Institute for Labour Studies in cooperation with Central Board of workers Education, Mumbai Region from September 21-23, 2011 at the CBWE seminar room at Kurla, Mumbai. The objective of the Training Programme was to help the middle and grassroots level trade union leaders in understanding salient features of major labour laws and the role of trade unions in implementing them for protecting the labour rights.

The representatives of the major local trade unions, operating in and around Mumbai (Thane, Raigad district), affiliated to National Trade Union Centers viz INTUC, CITU, AITUC, BKS, ICL and some local unions representing unorganized workers including construction workers, domestic workers, were invited for participation in the Training Programme. In all 34 participants, including the observers, participated in the workshop.

The Training Programme was inaugurated by Mr. Govind Mohite, General Secretary, Rashtriya Mill Mazdoor Sangh (a textile union affiliated to INTUC). Dr. S.T. Sawant, Adviser, AILS, Dr. Onkar Sharma, VVGNLI, Mr. G. B. Gawde, Director AILS, Shri Siddhartha More, Dir-in-charge, Western Zone, CBWE were present on the occasion. Dr. Onkar Sharma brilliantly described the manners of the Labour Laws to the participants and underlined the role of trade union in the implementation process. He emphasised the need for training in Labour Laws and reiterated that without the involvement of trade union in the implementation of Labour Laws workers interests could not be protected.

In the next session Mr. Siddharth More presented “An Over view of the existing Status of Labour Laws”. The post lunch session was conducted by Dr. Onkar Sharma. He highlighted salient features of Labour Legislations covered under Standard Labour Legislations viz. Contract Act, Minimum Wages Act, Factory Act, etc.

In the final session of the day Dr. Arvind Kumar Drave, Director of Central Board of workers Education delivered a talk to the participants. He took a review of the existing industrial situation in the country, the problems of labour and the trade union response to the changing scenario. Mr. Bhadre, Zonal director, CBWE also spoke on the occasion.

Dr. S. T. Sawant took a “Review of the national and international instruments protecting labour”. He explained the base of the national instruments and the procedure followed in adopting international standards. The role of trade unions in these spheres was highlighted. This was followed by the Group work on benefits of working together, dealing with the problem etc.


On the last day of the Programme the first session was devoted for a lecture on Social Welfare Legislations. Dr. Onkar Sharma shared with the participants the important clauses and the provisions made in the laws to protect the interest and the rights of the construction workers.

The second session was devoted for a group work on “Areas of Concern of Trade Unions in Implementation of the Labour Legislations”.
At the end of the three day training programme the participants expressed their satisfaction from the inputs received by them and unanimously decided to bring a unity among all the trade unions to work on common issues. **Mr. G.B. Gawde** suggested a creation of forum of unions. The participants accepted the suggestions and a **Forum of Trade Unions on Social Accountability** was announced at the end of the Training Programme and it was proposed that the meetings of the Forum be held quarterly at the office of the Ambekar Institute for Labour Studies. **Mr. G.B. Gawde** took over the responsibility to work as the coordinator of the forum. All the thirty four participants would be the founder members. **Dr. ST. Sawant, Dr. M.M. Rehman** and **Dr. Onkar Sharma** expressed their desire to work for the Forum and expressed willingness to extend their cooperation.

The closing session was blessed with the presence of **Dr. S.T. Sawant**, Advisor of the AILS and **Dr. M.M. Rehman, Dr. Onkar Sharma** of VVGNI. The workshop was concluded with thanks extended by **Mr. G.B. Gawde** to VVGNI and CBWE for their cooperation in organizing the Training Programme.

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**Three-day Workshop on Social Security Schemes for Workers in the Unorganised Sector**

21-23 September, 2011

Three days workshop on ‘Social Security Schemes for workers in the unorganised sector’ was held at Late Narayan Meghaji Lokhande Maharashtra Institute of Labour Studies, Mumbai during 21-23 September, 2011. The workshop was attended by 36 participants from various trade unions working in the unorganised sector, NGOs and other organisations. The workshop was jointly organised by Late Narayan Meghaji Lokhande Maharashtra Institute of Labour Studies, Mumbai and V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, Noida. The main objectives of the workshop were:

1) To generate awareness among the unorganised sector workers about various Social Security/Welfare schemes of the Government for their Socio-economic development.

2) To discuss the various Social Security schemes and comprehensive legislations for workers in the unorganised sector and also examine the feasibility of implementation of different social security measures envisaged.

3) To develop them and their organisations through which they can effectively mobilise workers in the unorganised sector.

The three days workshop was inaugurated by eminent trade unionist **Shri Yashwant Chavan**, President, Sarva Shramik Sangh and the inaugural function was chaired by **Dr. Rajan Tungare**, Director, Late Narayan Meghaji Lokhande Maharashtra Institute of Labour Studies, Mumbai. He highlighted the
objectives of the programme and welcomed Chief Guest and introduced him. He mentioned that the workshop is an important initiative of Late Narayan Meghajii Lokhande Maharashtra Institute of Labour Studies and the collaborating Institute V.V. Giri National Labour Institute to cater to the needs of unorganised sector, which is rapidly growing in the economy. Dr. M.M. Rehman, Course Director, V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, at also provided a brief outline of the programme.

In the inaugural address, Chief Guest Shri Yashwant Chavan envisaged the entire scenario of the unorganised sector and said that Trade Union movement is the part of political movement. Labour is a strong power in the society, only we have to organise it; organising the Unorganised Sector is a major challenge of the Trade Union Movement. In every Industry Employer and worker both being partner in the Industry. Further he mentioned that there is a need of full time activists to organise the unorganised workers and this is the responsibility of all trade unions. He strongly felt that working class should come together and the unity may be reflected at the local level - including the ward level in municipal areas. He also made an innovative suggestion that the trade unions as a whole may contribute to the common fund which would pay for the full time workers serving the cause of unorganised sector.

The valedictory session was chaired by Dr. Rajan Tungare, Director, MILS and the Chief Guest was Shri R. G. Patil, Retired Addl. Commissioner of Labour. Shri R.G.Patil as Additional Commissioner of Labour was instrumental in focusing or the unorganised sector especially the Naka Workers. Dr. Rajan Tungare, Director, LNML/MILS commented that it was the social responsibility of all stakeholders that they should come forward with suitable measures for the socio-economic upliftment of the unorganised workers.
Other Professional Engagements of the Director General and Faculty

Shri Ved Prakash Yajurvedi, Director General

- Inaugurated the Training Programme on Industrial Relations and Trade Unionism in a Globalizing Economy (September 5, 2011)
- Inaugurated the International Training Programme on Prevention of HIV/AIDS (September 5, 2011)
- Attended the ADB Workshop on Social Inclusiveness in Asia’s Middle Income Countries at Hotel Borobudur in Jakarta, Indonesia (September 13, 2011)
- Attended the 5th India - EU Seminar on Employment and Social Policy ‘Occupational Safety and Health’ at Symposia Hall, NASC Complex, ICAR, DPS Marg, Delhi (September 19-20, 2011)
- Delivered the presidential address in the seminar on Working Lives in collaboration with Centre for Modern Indian Studies, University of Gottingen, Germany (October 3, 2011)
- Inaugurated the International Training Programme on Leadership Development (October 3, 2011)

Dr. Helen R. Sekar, Fellow

- Dr. Helen R. Sekar, Fellow, V.V. Giri National Labour Institute attended the meeting on Advisory on Missing Children organized by Bureau of Police Research and Development, Ministry of Home Affairs at on 21st September 2011.

Shri Otojit Kshetrimayum, Associate Fellow, VVGNLI

- Attended a one day conference EDTech Forum on “Integrating Technology and Transforming Education” on 15th September, 2011 organised by Bloomberg UTV and Department of Information and Technology, Government of India at New Delhi.

- Was discussant in the seminar on “Migration From North-East To Urban Centers: A Study of Delhi Region” on 30th September, 2011 at School of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies, IGNOU, New Delhi.
- Attended the 44th Session of the Standing Labour Committee held at NASC Complex, New Delhi on 17th October, 2011.

Training Programme on Developing Social Security (September 19-23, 2011)

The training programme on Developing Social Security was held from September 19-23, 2011 at the campus of the Institute. Social Security measures have been an essential aspect of any society. However, the forms of security and the process of implementation vary from time to time and as per the region specific needs. The objective of providing social security has remained the same despite the variations in providing some forms of assistance to people during their period of distress – distress caused by any unforeseen and inevitable eventualities like sickness, accident, unemployment, death, etc. Today, state plays a very important role in providing social security measures to people in different forms with different terms and conditions. But despite many social security programmes and schemes, the provision of social security has remained virtually conspicuous by its absence in the lives of the great majority of the workers of the unorganized sector. Hence, it is necessary to explore ways and means to extend social security measures to unorganized sector workers.
The aim of the programme is to develop grassroots level social security network and its main objectives are to acquaint with concepts of social security; to familiarise with the social security programmes; to develop self-help social security network and to familiarise with different micro level social security experiments.

The participants were trade union leaders from Central Trade Union Organisations & representatives from Civil Society Organisations. There were 29 participants in the training programme comprising eight women and 21 men representing nine states. All the participants found the issues covered in the training programme highly relevant and the overall rating for the training programme was excellent.

Several faculty members from the institute interacted with the participants. In addition, reduce persons form different institution and Govt. Department were also inspected to interact with the participants. Dr. Otojit Kshetrimayum was the Course Director.


V.V. Giri National Labour Institute organized a three-week International Training Programme on Prevention of HIV/AIDS in the World of during September 5-23, 2011 as a part of collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs under the ITEC/SCAAP programme. A total of twenty two participants from twelve countries participated in the training programme. The training programme was coordinated by Dr. Ruma Ghosh, Fellow, VVGNLI.

Taking in to consideration the fact that the training programme focused on prevention of HIV/AIDS in the world of work, therefore care was taken to see that after the initial sessions on the country’s HIV/AIDS interventions, there were sufficient sessions focusing on workplace interventions. It is for this purpose eminent faculty members from the Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Jamia Milia Islamia and VVGNLI’s own faculty members were invited to share their research studies on the impact of HIV/AIDS among workers. This was substantiated by sessions of ILO, UNWomen, Family Health International, USAID, National Human Rights Commission which focused on workplace interventions. Besides resource persons from academic institutions and implementing organizations, there were also resource persons from central trade unions and employers’ organizations who shared the relevance of workplace interventions with the participants.

The programme concluded with country presentation by the participants on HIV/AIDS workplace interventions in their respective countries. Shri Ravi Mathur, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Labour & Employment was invited as the chief guest in the valedictory ceremony of the training programme, which was chaired by Shri V.P. Yajurvedi, Director General, VVGNLI.
Training Programme on Developing Health Security
October 10-14, 2011

Training programme on Developing Health Security was conducted during October 10-14, 2011 in the Institute. Twenty six trade union leaders and labour officials from different parts of India participated in the training programme. The programme aimed at equipping the participants with skills of addressing the health insecurities of workers in informal employment. The objectives of the training programme were: 1) to enhance the understanding of the participants towards addressing issues relating health insecurities; 2) to familiarize the participants about emerging health and occupational hazards at workplace and preventive measures; 3) to discuss different health security programmes including micro level social insurance and community insurance interventions. The training programme revolved around the following themes: 1) Understanding Health Security of Workers: The Indian Case; 2) Health Challenges of Workers confronting in a Globalised Economy; 3) Developing Health Security for Informal Workers in the context of Millennium Development Goals; 4) Understanding Health & Society: Towards Health Security for Workers; 5) Understanding Occupational Health Hazards of Informal Workers; 6) Health and Safety legislations for Informal workers in India; 7) Understanding Health & Society: Towards Health Security for Workers; 8) Good practices in health service delivery in India; 9) Effective Implementation of Health Programmes focusing on RSBY; 10) Understanding Occupational Health Hazards of Informal Workers; 11) Communication Skills for health programmes; 12) Social Security with special reference to Welfare Schemes and Welfare Funds; 13) Experience Sharing; 14) Group Work.

Dr. M.M Rehman, Senior Fellow delivered the valedictory address and distributed certificates to the participants. Shri J.K Kaul Programme Officer was present on the occasion. Shri P. Amitav Khuntia, Associate Fellow was the Course Director.

Recent Training Programmes

Training Programmes held during September 2011

- Industrial Relations and Trade Unionism in a Globalising Economy September 5-8, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. S. K. Sasikumar)
- Empowering Trade Union Leaders, September 26-October 01, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Poonam S. Chauhan)
- Leadership Development Programme for Rural Trade Union Leaders, September 26-30, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Shashi Bala)
- Developing Leadership Skills, September 12-16, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Rinju Rasaily)
- Developing Social Security, September 19-23, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Otojit Kshetrimayum)
- One Day Rural Labour Camp at Orcha, Madhya Pradesh, September 03, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. M.M. Rehman)
- Orientation Programme for NGOs on Child Labour, September 20-23, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Helen R. Sekar)
- Two days training programme on Building and Other Construction Workers Act at Kohima for Labour Officials, September 8-9, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Onkar Sharma)
• Prevention of HIV/AIDS in the world of work, September 5-23, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Ruma Ghosh)
• Training of RSBY State Nodal Agencies (DGLW) during September 26-28, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Ruma Ghosh)
• Social Security for Workers in the Unorganised Sector (MILS), Mumbai September 21-23, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. M. M. Rehman)
• Capacity Building for Elimination of Child Labour from Gujarat State (MGLI) September 14-16, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Helen R. Seker)
• Leadership Development Programme for Trade Union Leaders from Gujarat State (MGLI), September 12-13, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Poonam S. Chauhan)
• Training Programme on Labour Laws during September 21-23, 2011 at AILS, Mumbai (Course Director: Dr. Onkar Sharma)

Training Programmes held during October 2011

• Effective Enforcement of Building and other Construction Workers Act at Srinagar, October 13-14, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Onkar Sharma)
• Awareness and Sensitization Programme on Problems of the Workers of Unorganized Sector, October 31-November 04, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Onkar Sharma)
• Leadership Development Programme for the Gramin Bank Officers and Employees, October 31-November 04, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. M.M. Rehman)
• Orientation Training Programme on Child Labour at Srinagar, October 11-12, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Helen R. Sekar)
• Developing Health Security, October 10-14, 2011 (Course Director: Shri P. Amitav Khuntia)
• Leadership Development Programme, October 10-28, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Poonam S. Chauhan)
• International Training Programme on Labour Administration and Leadership for Afghan officials at Institute’s Campus, October 31- November 04, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Poonam S. Chauhan)
• International Summer Academy: Working Lives (Germany), October 1-9, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. S.K. Sasikumar)
• Leadership Development Programme, October 31-November 4, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Otojit Kshetrimayum)
• Leadership Development Programme, October 3-7, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. M. M. Rehman)
• Training Programme on Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour through NCLP-Role of Trade Unions in collaboration with Building and Wood Workers International (BWI), October 19-21, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Helen R. Sekar)
• Industrial Relations and Challenges before Labour Inspection Machinery (MILS), October 19-21, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Onkar Sharma)
• Leadership Development Programme for Women Trade Union Leaders at Trivandrum/Ernakulam (KILE), October 19-21, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Dhanya M.B.)
• Training Need Assessment Programme, ILO, October 17, 2011 (Course Director: Dr. Helen R. Sekar)