

Political Staff

THE Minister of Justice,
Mr J T Kruger, has dis-
closed there are now 55
security trials involving
151 people pending in the
country.

Mr Krufer gave the lat-
est official security statis-
tics in an interview with
Mrs Helen Suzman, Parlia-
mentary. Opposition
spokesman on justice, earl-
ier this week.

According to Mrs Suz-
man, the Minister also dis-
closed that: 144 people are
being held under Section
6 of the Terrorism Act; 77 .

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witnesses are in detention
under Section 12b of the
Internal Security Act and
21 are in preventive deten-
tion under Section 10 of
the same Act. :

Mrs Suzman said the

. Minister had given her theâ\200\231

assurance that unannounc-
two Government-appointed
â\200\234watchdogsâ\200\235 were conduc-
ted in Private.

The â\200\234watchdogsâ\200\235 â\200\224 Mr

W M van den Berg SC and

Mr A J Mouton â\200\224 were
appointed in May this year
to make unannounced vis-
its to Terrorism Act de- |

[tainees after a spate of
deaths in detention.

Mr Kruger also an-
the appointment

1 mounced }
of a former Security Police
officer to ensure that regu-

lations governing conditions of detention were being carried out by Security Police..

Mrs Suzman said the Minister had not disclosed how many detainees had been, visited, but he showed her a "big pile" of
rts.

"My comment was that I welcomed these developments, but pointed out once again that as long as we have laws providing for indefinite detention

without trial and solitary confinement, it will be impossible to prevent abuses," Mrs Suzman said.

said the Minister |

She had also told her parole was being granted to some people serving sentences

under the Drug Abuse Act, |

which was amended this year. :

ed visits to detainees by |

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Curb soaring |
jobless rate,
Govt urged

By GERALD REILLY
Pretoria Bureau

POLITICAL and labour
- leaders concerned at the
socio-political dangers of
" the rapid rise of black un-
employment yesterday ur-
ged a crash Government
programme to slow it
- down.

They were reacting to
an assessment in a Sen-

Labour Correspondent

MOST black unemployed
" people and their families
in major urban areas of
South Africa are in acute

e

poverty, a survey has
-, found.
- The families of up to a
third of unemployed

blacks. in Johannesburg,

. Maritzburg and Durban

are destitute or near-des-
* titute, with no wage in-
. comes at all.

In a further 30% of af-
fected households, wage
incomes are spread over
so many people poverty is
inevitable. :

And - the survey shows
the Unemployment Insur-

ance Fund is largely fail- .

ing to relieve the plight
of the unemployed.

These stark facts have
emerged from a major

Â« survey of the situation of

. black unemployed in ur-

ban and rural areas, conducted by the Agency for

N

_Industrial Mission.

The results have been released in a book published

by the agency and the

Development Studies Research Group of the Uni-

versity of Natal, which assisted in

the survey.

The book, entitled South

African Unemployment

A Black Picture was edited by Mr Charles Sim-

bank report this week that unemployed blacks now totalled 2 300 000.

Last week the Department of Statistics estimated black unemployment at the end of February at 569 000. The leaders claim this gives a hopelessly inaccurate picture of an ex-

remely dangerous and ex-

plosive problem. Senbank economist,

kins of the University of Natal and Father Cosmas Desmond.

The survey found that well over 80% of people in the three cities surveyed and in Lebowa and KwaZulu struggled to pay for essential items like food, clothing and rent.

The Unemployment Insurance Fund provides

benefits for a maximum of

26 weeks. But up to half of the people had been unemployed for longer than that. .

Of those who had registered in Johannesburg,

- Just over half had actually

received payments. Two-thirds of the others were still waiting, and a third did not persist or ran into insuperable problems with the labour bureau. In the rural areas the situation was even worse.

Over 50% of unemployed

in Lebowa and over half in KwaZulu never received UIF cards. x

* Dr Alex Boraine, labour spokesman for the Progressive Federal Party, last night called on the

" Minister. of Labour to

take immediate action to alleviate the desperate plight of the unemployed spelled out in the survey.

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Dr I Botha, warned that black unemployment could become even more serious. The Progressive Federal Party's spokesman on finance, Mr Harry Schwarz, MP, said the statistics published by Senbank would shock those concerned about the country's economy.

ect conflict with official estimates and the time had come for a review of the statistics by the Government. Y

Rising unemployment was a major political problem and the creation of jobs should be given the most urgent priority by the Government.

A review of the Environmental Planning Act and the Income Tax Act, and the provision of greater financial aid by the Government for new industries should be part of a top level Government investigation, he said.

â\200\234If the Government does not move urgently to provide more jobs, then no political solution attempted in this country can hope to succeed,â\200\235 Mr Schwarz warned.

The general secretary of the Trade Union Council of South Africa, â\200\230Mr Ar-

thur Grobbelaar, said un-

employment was a global problem but in South Africa it carried â\200\230with it the hazard of unrest, particularly as the majority of workless blacks were young men in their teens or early twenties.

â\200\234The Government must

appoint a commission urgently to accurately assess the number of workless blacks. The long-term solu-

The figures were in direction â\200\224 and unemployment |

is going to be a permanent problem â\200\224 is birth control.

â\200\234What we need, however, is a short-term solution to defuse what could develop into an extremely dangerous situation,â\200\235 Mr Grobbelaar said.

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