

National survey to identify bonded labour

1223. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that the International Labour Organisation requested our Government to undertake a comprehensive national survey to identify the total bonded labour in our country; and

what is the reaction of Government in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) The International Labour Conference of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in its 88th Session held in June, 2000 urged Government of India to undertake a comprehensive survey to identify the total number of bonded labourers in the country. The process of identification of bonded labour forms part of the functions vested upon the District Magistrates under Section 10, 11 and 12 of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. In addition, under a Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme for rehabilitation of bonded labourers, provision has been made for grants to the State Government @ Rs. 2 lakh per bonded labour-prone district for conducting survey of bonded labourers once in three years.

ESI Hospital at Bari Brahama, Jammu

1224. MIRZA ABDUL RASHID: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

whether the funds for the commissioning of Employees State Insurance Hospital at Bari Brahama, Jammu have been released; and

if not, when is the same being done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) A sum of Rs. 64.23 lakh has been released by the ESI Corporation for construction of the ESI Hospital at Bari Brahama, Jammu.

(b) Does not arise.