

Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Condition of Service) Act, 1996. The premium for the scheme shall be paid from the funds collected by the Welfare Boards constituted under the said Act.

(c) Despite repeated persuasions, very few States have initiated concrete action in terms of inviting premium bids from insurance companies to extend the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana to construction workers.

Study by NSSO on child labourers

□2050. SHRI JABIR HUSAIN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of child labourers are increasing from 7 to 8 per cent in the country as per the study made by National Sample Survey Organisation in the year 2004-06;

(b) whether 22.8 per cent children of Rajasthan are child labourers and their number is 34 lacs and 88 thousands;

(c) out of these 85 per cent children belong to SC/ST/OBC and minorities; and

(d) if so, special measures likely to be taken by Government to tackle this inhuman situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT): (a) No, Sir. As per the survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in 2004-05, the number of child labourers has declined as compared to its earlier surveys.

(b) The NSSO survey of 2004-05 shows 17.2 percent children as workers in the age group of 5-14 years in Rajasthan and their number is 8.21 lakh.

(c) As per the NSSO survey, 13% of the child labour belongs to Scheduled Tribe, 6.9% belong to Scheduled Caste and 6.8% belong to Other Backward Classes.

(d) To tackle this situation the Government is implementing National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme in 23 districts of Rajasthan. Under the scheme, children withdrawn from work are admitted into the special schools where they are provided with bridging education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend, health care, etc.

Implementation of equal pay for equal work

2051.DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the non-implementation of the directive principle of 'equal pay for equal work' amounts to discrimination against women;

(b) if so, the steps Government proposes to take for its implementation;

(c) whether Government thinks that the implementation of the directive principle of 'equal pay for equal work' would be positive step towards empowerment of women; and

□ Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.