

rescue operations, post rescue and repatriation, rehabilitation and prevention. Role of all the key stakeholders, viz. labour departments, police, district administration, health department, etc. has been defined in the Protocol.

#### Bonded labourers

1466. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bonded labourers liberated during 2009 and so far this year, State-wise;

(b) the number of persons responsible for keeping the bonded labourers identified and apprehended, State/Union Territory-wise; and

(c) the expenditure incurred by Central/State Governments for the rehabilitation of liberated labourers State/Union Territory-wise during the year *i.e.* 2009-10?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT) : (a) and (c) Details are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Details are given in Statement-II.

#### Statement-I

##### Number of Bonded Labourers released

In order to assist the States in rehabilitation of released bonded labourers, a Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme for rehabilitation of Bonded labour is in operation since May, 1978. Under the Scheme, assistance is provided @ Rs. 20,000/- per bonded labour which is equally shared by Central and State Government concerned. The total number of bonded labourers released and rehabilitated and amount of central assistance released to State/UTs during the years 2008-09 and 2009-10 (upto 28.2.2010) are as under :

Name of States	Number of Bonded Labourers released and rehabilitated		Amount of Central Assistance Released to States/UTs (Rs. in lakhs)	
	2008-09	2009-10	2008-09	2009-10
	(1.4.2008 to 31.3.2009)	(1.4.2009 to 28.2.2010)	(1.4.2008 to 31.3.2009)	(1.4.2009 to 28.2.2010)
Bihar	409	264	36.00	22.10
Uttar Pradesh	80	100	7.98	12.22
West Bengal	54	—	5.40	—

**Statement-II**

*Prosecutions Launched Under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition), Act 1976*

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of Prosecutions Launched/ persons prosecuted.
1.	Gujarat	2
2.	Punjab	3
3.	Bihar	149
4.	Rajasthan	324
5.	Madhya Pradesh	393
6.	Haryana	6
7.	Tamil Nadu	719
8.	Maharashtra	681
9.	Orissa	728
10.	Karnataka	252
11.	Andhra Pradesh	212
12.	Uttar Pradesh	2424
TOTAL		5893

**Impact of health legislation on employment in the beedi sector**

1467. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that harsh and extreme health legislation had a deep and negative impact on employment in the beedi sector and marginal farm workers in the unorganized sector;

(b) whether Government has taken any steps to counter this targeted negative impact on the millions of beedi workers?

(c) if so, what steps Government has taken to moderate or modify the harsh measures against the beedi workers; and

(d) the reasons for the muted reaction by Government to protect the large tobacco sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT) : (a) to (d) Any deep and negative impact on employment in the beedi sector and marginal farm workers in the unorganized sector has not been discarded.