

Regular inspections are conducted and in the event of detection of any case of violation under these Acts, necessary action is taken including invoking of penal provisions against the defaulting employers.

#### **Women labourers in tea plantation in Assam**

1205. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any study has been conducted in regard to the contribution of women labourers in tea plantation of Assam and any assessment of percentage of their contribution;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has formulated any special action plan for women labourers in Assam tea plantation; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to remove anomalies in their pay scale and other facilities in comparison to male labourers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) The State Government of Assam has reported that no study has been conducted with regard to the contribution of women labourers in tea plantations of Assam and no assessment of percentage of their contribution has been made by the Government of Assam. Tea Board also has no information of any such study.

- (b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.
- (c) No special action plan for women labourers in Assam tea plantations has been formulated.
- (d) No anomaly or discrimination on the ground of sex (male/female) in respect of pay and other benefits in the tea plantation workers of Assam has been reported.

The Central Government has recently amended the Plantations Labour Act, 1951, to bring the parents/dependants of female workers in the definition of 'family' with effect from 07.06.2010 for provision of welfare benefits to them.

#### **Children working in circus rescued by Government**

1206. SHRI A.A. JINNAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of minor children working in circus rescued by Government in view of the orders of Supreme Court; and

(b) the State-wise number of children rehabilitated so far out of the rescued?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) As per information received from the State Governments, 13 children from Maharashtra and 24 children from Kerala have been rescued.

(b) 28 children belonging to West Bengal have been sent back to their home state. Out of 9 children belonging to Nepal, 3 were handed over to Nepal Embassy, New Delhi and 6 children were rehabilitated by the Social Welfare Department in Government of Kerala.

#### **Rehabilitation of freed bonded labourers**

†1207. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has a policy in place regarding rehabilitation of freed bonded labourers;

(b) if so, the State-wise number of freed labourers from various States;

(c) whether as per Central Government policy, any proposal has been received from Chhattisgarh Government for setting up of labour rehabilitation centre for freed labourers from other States; and

(d) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) In order to assist the State Governments in the task of rehabilitation of identified and released bonded labourers, a Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour is in operation since May, 1978. Under the scheme, rehabilitation assistance @ Rs. 20,000/- per bonded labour is provided which is equally shared by the Central and State Government.

(b) A Statement is given (*See below*).

(c) and (d) No Proposal has been received from State Government of Chhattisgarh for setting up of labour rehabilitation centre for freed bonded labourers. The Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour does not provide for setting up of labour rehabilitation centre. The proposal received from the State Government for release of central assistance for rehabilitation of bonded labour is under examination.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.