

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) and (b) The Bonded Labour System has been abolished by law throughout the country with effect from 25th October, 1975 under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Ordinance which was replaced by the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. As and when existence of bonded labour is detected, such persons are identified for rehabilitation. According to the reports received from the State Governments, the total number of bonded labourers identified and released is 2,89,327 as on 31.3.2011.

The responsibility for rehabilitating the freed bonded labourers lies with the respective State Governments. 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.

In collaboration with the ILO, the Central Government and State Government of Tamil Nadu have launched a pilot project in the State for the purpose of reducing vulnerability to bondage through promotion of decent work. Attempt is now being made to replicate this approach in some other states of the country.

As a result of concerted efforts made by the Government through various anti-poverty programmes, awareness, sensitization etc., the incidence of bonded labour has witnessed a down ward trend over the years.

(c) The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, provides for punishment for enforcement of bonded labour. The States/Union Territories are mandated to implement the provisions of the Act.

(d) and (e) Separate data is maintained in respect of child bonded labourers identified and released.

Bringing domestic servants within social security net

†2439. SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been an increase in the number of cases of torture of domestic servants and keeping them deprived of their rights;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the State-wise details of the labourers working as domestic servants in the country; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) whether Government proposes to bring these domestic servants within the purview of social security?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) and (b) As 'Public Order' is a state subject, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Government to take necessary action for protecting people, including the domestic servants in the State. The domestic work falls under the purview of State sphere and State Governments are empowered to take action for protection of their rights.

(c) The State-wise details of labourers working as domestic servants in the country is not maintained. However as per National Sample Survey (NSS) 2004-05, there are about 47.50 lakh domestic workers in the country.

(d) The Government has enacted the Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act, 2008 for the social security and welfare of unorganized workers which includes domestic servants/workers.

Sexual harassment in work places

2440. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of sexual harassment cases in work places has increased/decreased over the past three years in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether data for the number of sexual harassment cases in work places is available for Delhi and NCR region; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) to (d) Centralized data on the number of cases of sexual harassment is not maintained. The Government does not receive complaints directly as these are to be dealt by Complaints Committees constituted by the employers at their respective workplaces. However, not many cases of sexual harassment have been reported in the last three years. Only one case of sexual harassment has been reported in Central Sphere. The case was examined by sexual harassment committee of NTPC Dadri and was found to be false.

In Delhi two cases of sexual harassment have been reported during last three years. The details of these are as follows:

(i) Smt. Neelam Vig in M/s Jassaram Hospital, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-The case is presently being examined by committee constituted by the management.