

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Office. Last such survey was conducted during 2009-10. As per results of the surveys conducted during 1972-73, 2004-05 and 2009-10, distribution of employment of urban female in India is as:

Year	Employment distribution of urban female (%)
2009-10	13.8
2004-05	16.6
1972-73	13.4

#### **Social security and other facilities for beedi workers**

†1059. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether action has been initiated with regard to report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour, which was presented in the Parliament with regards to social security and other facilities for Beedi labourers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The report and the recommendations are being examined by the Government.

#### **Reforms in labour laws**

1060. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission has suggested reforms in labour laws aiming at acceleration of industrial growth by another 3-4 percent;

(b) if so, whether such a step could contribute significantly towards achieving 12 per cent growth which would help in creating large employment potential; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether the existing labour laws' dispensation is quite inflexible in hiring and firing professionals?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) to (c) The Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission had published an academic paper in 'Economic and Political Weekly' in the issue dated 21st May 2011. It had been specifically mentioned in the paper that the views expressed in the paper were personal to him and did not reflect the official position of the Government.

In this paper, the Deputy Chairman had stated that a key challenge in the 12th Plan is how to ensure creation of a sufficient number of productive jobs in the non-agricultural sector to absorb the expected increase in the labour force and the surplus labour that must be shifted out of agriculture. The industrial sector was targeted to grow at an average rate of 10% to 11% per year in the 11th Plan, but the actual achievement is likely to be lower. Industry must not only grow faster than it has thus far, it must also be more able to absorb labour with relatively simple skills of the type which migrants from rural areas can acquire. The Deputy Chairman also mentioned that some consideration has to be given to the long-standing issue of the need to rationalize the labour laws in the country to give employers more flexibility to shed labour when faced with a downturn. This is not to advocate policies of hire and fire, but only to say that more flexibility needs to be built into the labour laws than existing at present.

#### **Female child labour in the country**

1061. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of female child labour of the total child labour force in the country;

(b) whether Government has formulated any scheme for the benefit and rehabilitation of girl child labour in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) As per the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) survey in 2004-05, there were 90.75 lakh working children out of which 47.51% girl child labour. The State-wise details are given in Statement (See below).