

**Contract workers in automobile industry**

\*347. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether nearly 40 per cent of the workers employed by automobile industry are contract workers;
- (b) whether it is a fact that car makers use cheap contract workers in key functions whereas they are supposed to be employed only in non-critical areas and thus are exploited by the automobile industry extensively;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether these workers are fired without notice as they have no legal protection; if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government to investigate the pathetic condition of the contract workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) All contract workers in automobile industry come under State sphere. Hence, no centralized data is available about their number.

(b) and (c) Any establishment can employ contract workers in any job or process unless it is prohibited under section 10 of the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970. However, the establishments engaging contract workers have to follow the statutory provisions contained in labour laws otherwise they are liable to be proceeded against by the enforcement machinery of the appropriate Government.

The period of employment of contract labour depends on the term and conditions of the contract of work/job between the Principal Employer and the contractor/worker.

(e) The interests of the contract labour in term of wages and other service conditions are safeguarded under Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970. The social security aspects of contract workers are taken care of under Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provision Act, 1952 and Employees State Insurance Act, 1948. Under these Acts, the Central Government is the appropriate Government in respect of the establishments falling under Central

sphere. Respective State Governments are the appropriate Government in respect of the establishment falling under State sphere. Private companies also come under State sphere. In the Central sphere, the complaints/grievances are received in the field offices of Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) Organization, Employees Provident Fund organization and Employees State Insurance Corporation and action is taken. Apart from the prosecutions, Central Government has prohibited employment of contract labour in various establishments in Central sphere through 84 Notifications issued from time to time under Section 10 of the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970.

**Unutilised funds lying in construction workers welfare boards**

\*348. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than Rs. 7000 crore are lying unutilised in different State Construction Workers Welfare Boards but this amount could not be spent due to inaction of the State Government Labour Departments; and

(b) if so, the details of funds available in different States in Construction Workers Welfare Boards and the steps taken by the Central Government to utilize these funds for construction workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) and (b) As per the information received from State Governments, the total amount collected as construction cess and the amount utilised by the State Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Boards as on 30.06.2012 is as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the States/. UTs	Amount of cess collected (Rs. in crore)	Amount Utilised (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	625	34.73
2	Arunachal Pradesh	22.96	4.56
3	Assam	82.08	0.35
4	Bihar	144.47	14.55