

Continuous rise in labourers on contract basis

†1204. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the appointments of labourers in Government and Non-Government industrial sector on contract basis has been rising continuously since past years;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether it is also a fact that labourers appointed on contract basis is not only very cheap but employer is also free from liability of his labourers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the import of growth of this trend in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE) : (a) and (b) The Contract Labour are engaged by the Government and Non-Government industrial sector as per their terms of contract and requirement. No centralized data of contract labour is maintained. However, the estimated number of contract labour engaged by licenced contractors in central sphere in the last three years is as under:—

Year	No. of contract labour covered by such licences
2009-10	13.73 lakhs
2010-11	14.89 lakhs
2011-12*	13.07 lakhs

* Provisional.

(c) and (d) The employer is not free from various liabilities in the context of contract labour. Engagement of contract labourers is regulated under the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 and as per the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Central Rules, 1971, the wages of the contract labour shall not be less than

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the rates prescribed under Minimum Wages Act, 1948 and in case where the contract worker perform the same or similar kind of work as the workmen directly employed by the principal employer of the establishment, the wage rates, holidays, hours of work and other conditions of service shall be the same as applicable to the workmen directly employed by the principal employer doing the same or similar kind of work. The liability to ensure payment of wages and other benefits is primarily that of the contractor and, in case of default, that of the principal employer.

In the central sphere, the complaints are received in the field offices of Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) Organization under the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970, Minimum Wages Act, 1948 and by other laws applicable on contract labour which are investigated and action is taken. Social security aspects of contract workers under Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provision Act, 1952 and Employees State Insurance Act, 1948 are enforced by the Employees Provident Fund Organization and Employees State Insurance Corporation respectively provided the establishments in which outsourced workers are working are covered under the said Acts. 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 the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970.

Employment oriented schemes

1205. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

- (a) the details of the employment oriented schemes under implementation by Government, as on date;
- (b) the State-wise number of Employment Exchanges functioning in the States;
- (c) the State-wise number of jobs provided to the registered unemployed persons through employment exchanges during the last three years and the current year till date;
- (d) whether unemployment is on the rise in the country;
- (e) if so, the State-wise details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the corrective steps taken in the matter till date?