

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	17.58	17.58	17.58	8.79	17.30	8.65
32	Daman and Diu	16.41	0.00	16.41	0.00	12.23	0.00
33	Delhi	93.34	0.00	200.00	0.00	350.00	175.00
34	Pondicherry	6.66	6.66	50.00	50.00	150.00	75.00
TOTAL :		48500.00	42160.85	53620.00	58149.79	78250.01	77883.10

Bonded labour in agricultural sector in Punjab

2897. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

SHRI D. RAJA:

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

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to news reports regarding existence of bonded labour in agricultural sector in Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that some of these bonded labourers commit suicide or got murdered by their employers;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of Government's actions in this regard and proposed plans to free and rehabilitate these bonded labourers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH): (a) and (b) As per information received from State Government of Punjab, news-item regarding bonded labour in agriculture sector in Punjab was published in the 'Hindu' dated 19.10.2012. The news-item referred to one bonded labour in Gandav Village. The State Government has sent the case to District Magistrate, Sangrur for taking necessary action.

(c) and (d) No such complaint where bonded labourers committed suicide or got murdered by their employers has been received by Labour Department of Punjab.

The State Government of Punjab has constituted District Level and Sub-Divisional Level Vigilance Committees to identify cases of bonded labour. The State Government has also asked District Magistrates to set up helpline in all districts for receiving complaints regarding bonded labour.

Under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 identification, release and rehabilitation of freed bonded labour is the direct responsibility of the concerned States/Union Territories. For these functions, District Magistrates and Sub-Divisional Magistrates have been entrusted with certain duties/responsibilities.

In order to assist the State Governments in the task of rehabilitation of identified and released bonded labour, 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.

Child labour in Agriculture

2898. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that weak laws allow child labour in agriculture; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps being taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH): (a) The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 prohibits the employment of children below the age 14 years in 18 occupations and 65 processes and regulates the working conditions of children in employments where they are not prohibited from working. The Act does not differentiate between various sectors of economy. Even in agriculture children below 14 years are prohibited from working if there is use of processes involving tractors, threshing and harvesting machines, chaff cutting and handling of pesticides and insecticides.

- (b) Does not arise.

Setting up of employment information centres in villages

2899. SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state: