

guidelines on the subject, fresh vigilance clearance was obtained in respect of all the 25 officers before issuance of the promotion order. As per the vigilance status received, one officer was not clear from vigilance angle. Meanwhile he has retired on superannuation on 30.9.2013. Promotion orders in respect of remaining 24 Assistant Engineers (Civil) who were clear from vigilance angle have been issued.

Bonded labour in Tamil Nadu

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

(a) whether 58 girls aged between 25 to 30 years were rescued from Gem Agro Exports located at Manikattipudur on the Tiruchengode Road, which indicated that bonded labour exists in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, whether Government has the State-wise statistics of existing bonded labour in India; and

(c) the action Government proposes to take against the Collector and District Magistrate who are authorized by Government but have not implemented the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act in their districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH): (a) 59 girls aged between 13 and 29 were rescued from the Gem Agro Exports located at Manikattipudur on 18.11.2013.

(b) The bonded labour system has been abolished by law throughout the country with effect from 25.10.1975 under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Ordinance which was replaced by Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. As and when existence of bonded labour is detected, such people are identified for rehabilitation.

(c) Under the Act, it is the duty of the State Governments to confer such powers and impose such duty on a District Magistrate as may be necessary to ensure that the provisions of the Act are properly carried out. The State Governments are also required to constitute Vigilance Committees in each district and each sub-division. It is the responsibility of the State Government to take action against the District Magistrate, if they are not implementing the provisions of the Act.
