manufacturing and expand employment opportunities by promoting tourism and agro-based industries.

The Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), Government of India has adopted the cluster development approach as a key strategy for enhancing the productivity, competitiveness, as well as for boosting employment and capacity building of Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) in various sectors including manufacturing sector.

(c) to (f) Various labour laws like the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, etc. have been enacted to safeguard the interests of the workers and employees in the private sector. Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, both the Central Government and the State Governments are the appropriate Government to fix, revise, review and enforce the payment of minimum wages to workers in respect of scheduled employments under their jurisdictions. The enforcement of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 is ensured at two levels. While in the Central Sphere, the enforcement is done through the inspecting officers of the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) commonly designated as Industrial Relations Machinery (CIRM), the compliance in the State Sphere is ensured through the State Enforcement Machinery.

National Policy for domestic workers

1530. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made any assessment of the domestic workers working in the country;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;

(c) whether Government is planning a National Policy for domestic workers to protect these workers and ensure their well being; and

(d) if so, the progress made in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details showing the State-wise number of domestic workers working in the country as per Census, 2001 are given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) National Policy for domestic Workers is under active consideration of the Government.

Statement

Number of domestic workers State-wise as per census 2011

Sl. No.	State/ UT	No. of Domestic Workers
1.	Jammu & Kashmir	57895
2.	Himachal Pradesh	24085
3.	Punjab	229981
4.	Chandigarh	23668
5.	Uttaranchal	23852
6.	Haryana	115167
7.	Delhi	240332
8.	Rajasthan	94586
9.	Uttar Pradesh	228250
10.	Bihar	104744
11.	Sikkim	8381
12.	Arunachal Pradesh	7896
13.	Nagaland	9696
14.	Manipur	3036
15.	Mizoram	5237
16.	Tripura	12863
17.	Meghalaya	16161
18.	Assam	130297
19.	West Bengal	640456
20.	Jharkhand	64012
21.	Odisha	122722
22.	Chhattisgarh	88676

Sl. No.	State/ UT	No. of Domestic Workers
23.	Madhya Pradesh	139798
24.	Gujarat	320175
25.	Daman&Diu	3175
26.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	3625
27.	Maharashtra	742088
28.	Andhra Pradesh	527204
29.	Karnataka	275632
30.	Goa	22297
31.	Lakshadweep	98
32.	Kerala	187127
33.	Tamil Nadu	384674
34.	Punducherry	14772
35.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1996
	TOTAL	4874654

Women workforce in the country

1531. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that women's participation in workforce in the country has decreased substantially during the last decade in rural as well as urban areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has initiated any action to check the decline or improve the women's participation in workforce; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through labour force surveys on