

Rehabilitation of bonded workers

1219. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government in proposing to increase the limit of bonded workers rehabilitation scheme amount upto ₹ 1 lakh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) Centrally sponsored Plan Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour is in operation since May, 1978. Originally the scheme provided for rehabilitation assistance upto a ceiling limit of ₹ 4,000/- per bonded labour. The rehabilitation assistance was raised to ₹ 6,250/- *w.e.f.* 1.2.1986; it was subsequently enhanced to ₹ 10,000/- per Bonded Labourer *w.e.f.* 1.4.1995. In the year 2000 it was further enhanced to ₹ 20,000/- per freed bonded labourer.

Presently, Ministry of Labour and Employment is working for revision of the scheme. The process of consultation is yet to reach finality.

Unemployed persons registered in employment exchanges

1220. SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of unemployed persons registered in employment exchanges in the country; and

(b) the employment provided to them in the last one and half year (May, 2014 to October, 2015)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA): (a) and (b) As per information received from the States, State-wise details of number of job seekers, all of whom may not necessarily be unemployed, registered with employment exchanges in the country as on 31st December, 2014 and employment provided to them through these employment exchanges during (January-December), 2014 are given in the Statement (*See below*).