

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

RAJYA SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1859
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.03.2022**

MATERNITY BENEFITS FOR THE ADOPTIVE MOTHERS

1859. DR. SANTANU SEN:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering a further amendment to the Maternity Benefits (Amendment) Act, 2017 to ensure that paid leave is granted to working mothers who adopt a child above 3 months of age;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether Government is considering a further amendment to the Maternity Benefits (Amendment) Act, 2017 to grant 26 weeks of paid leave to adoptive mothers as well; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)**

(a) to (d): There has been no proposal to further amend the Maternity Benefits Act, 1961, which was amended only in the year, 2017 and for the first time 12 weeks of maternity leave was provided to an adoptive mother also who adopts a child below the age of 3 months from the date the child is handed over to her.
