

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2641
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23.03.2023**

REHABILITATION OF BONDED LABOURERS

2641. MS. DOLA SEN:

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

- (a) whether Government has the data on the estimated number of bonded labourers in the country at present, State/ UT-wise;**
- (b) the measures taken by Government to prevent the trafficking of persons for bonded labour;**
- (c) whether Government has the data of a number of persons rescued from bonded labour during the last three years;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State and UT-wise; and**
- (e) the details of total funds allocated by Government to rehabilitate bonded labourers rescued since 2018, year-wise?**

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): The Government has adopted a multi- pronged strategy for abolition of bonded labourers system:

(i) Central Government enacted the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976; The Act empowers Executive Magistrates to exercise powers of Judicial Magistrate of first or second class for trial of offences; Vigilance Committees at District and Sub-divisional levels have been prescribed to identify and rehabilitate bonded labourers and

Contd..2/-

(ii) Implementation of Central Sector Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourers: Under the Scheme, the Government of India provides financial assistance amounting to Rs.30,000/- for each case of rehabilitation. In addition to the financial assistance, the beneficiaries are also entitled for the following non-cash assistance from the respective State Government:

- **Allotment of House/site & agricultural land**
- **Land development**
- **Provision of low cost dwelling Units.**
- **Animal husbandry, dairy, poultry, piggery etc.**
- **Wage employment, enforcement of minimum wages etc.**
- **Collection and processing of minor forest products.**
- **Supply of essential commodities under targeted public distribution system.**
- **Education for children.**

(c) & (d): The details of bonded labourers rehabilitated under the Central Sector Scheme viz. Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour, State / UT- wise, during 2020 -21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 (up to February 2023) is as under:

Year	State/UT	Number of bonded labourers rescued/ rehabilitated
2020-21	Assam	1
	Bihar	220
	Madhya Pradesh	34
	Rajasthan	49
	West Bengal	16
2021-22	Bihar	360
	Tamil Nadu	1016
	Rajasthan	50
	Chhattisgarh	250
2022-23*	Rajasthan	70
	Tamil Nadu	297
	Uttar Pradesh	287

* upto February 2023.

Contd..3/-

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(e): The details of fund allocated under the scheme “Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer” since 2018 are as under:

(Rs.in crore)

Year	Budget Estimate
2018-19	10.00
2019-20	8.00
2020-21	10.00
2021-22	10.00
2022-23	10.00
