GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2013 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2024

WORKING CONDITION OF TEA GARDEN WORKERS OF NORTH BENGAL

2013. MS. DOLA SEN:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the poor working condition of the tea garden workers of North Bengal;
- (b) if so, the steps taken till now to address the issue;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether Government has constructed roads through BRO in teagrowing areas for better transportation facilities?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)

(a) to (c): The working conditions of the plantation workers, including tea plantations of North Bengal region, are governed and monitored by the Plantations Labour Act, 1951, through the concerned State Governments, for which separate Rules are framed by them. The said Act aims to create a framework that ensures fair and humane conditions of work, promotes the welfare of plantation workers and their families viz. housing, medical and primary education, water supply, sanitation, etc.

Besides, the Central Government, through the Tea Board implements various welfare activities for tea plantation workers and their dependants in the area of health, hygiene, training and education.

- (d): Following roads have been constructed or are under construction by Directorate General of Boarder Roads Organisation (BRO) in tea growing area for better transportation facilities:
- i. Road Damdim-Algarah having length 71 Km, connecting with Lava and Papadkheti tea garden areas, completed.
- ii Road Nagrakatta-Jitty Y Junction on tea garden Axis; 10 Km out of total 13 Km completed.
- iii. Road Binaguri-Samchi Axis having length 16.20 Km completed.