GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 560 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.12.2025

PREVALENCE OF BONDED LABOUR

560. SHRI RWNGWRA NARZARY:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of prevalence of bonded labour in the country;
- (b) if so, the numbers of such labourers identified, State-wise; and
- (c) the details of steps taken to eradicate it, State-wise?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The Bonded Labour System has been abolished by the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. Under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 identification, release and rehabilitation of freed bonded labour is the direct responsibility of the concerned States/Union Territories.

Under this Act, each State/Union Territory must set up a Vigilance Committee to keep watch on the Bonded Labour cases in the State/UT and to monitor the progress of rehabilitation of the freed bonded labourers.

In order to assist the States/UTs in their task of rehabilitation of released bonded labourers, the Ministry of Labour & Employment is implementing a Central Sector Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer-2021. The scheme provides for immediate financial assistance up to Rs. 30,000/- for each rescued bonded labourer. Rehabilitation assistance to the tune of Rs.1.00 Rs.3.00 lakh. Rs.2.00 lakh and lakh is provided rescued/rehabilitated bonded labourers based on their category and level of exploitation upon proof of bondage.

The details of number of bonded labourers rescued & rehabilitated and the details of rehabilitation amount provided to States / UTs during last three years and the current year, State-wise, is annexed.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (c) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 560 FOR 04.12.2025 BY SHRI RWNGWRA NARZARY REGARDING PREVALENCE OF BONDED LABOUR:

Sl. No.	Year	Name of State/UT		Amount of Immediate Financial/Final Rehabilitation Assistance provided to bonded labourers (in Rs. lakh)
1.	2022-23	Rajasthan	70	14.00
		Uttar Pradesh	287	390.20
		Tamil Nadu	297	59.40
2.	2023-24	Rajasthan	56	11.20
		Tamil Nadu	176	56.80
		Chhattisgarh	76	15.20
		Pondicherry	5	15.00
		Odisha	155	15.50
3.	2024-25	Rajasthan	50	10.00
		Tamil Nadu	196	57.40
	2025-26	Tamil Nadu	41	19.30
4.	(As of			
	25.11.2025)			
