

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 943
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.02.2021**

LABOURERS EXPLOITED IN PRIVATE SECTOR

**†943. SHRI SUBRAT PATHAK:
SHRI RAVI KISHAN:**

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the labourers working in private sector are being exploited and they are forced to work in undesirable conditions despite the laws and provisions made by the Government in this regard;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether the Government is preparing any scheme to address the said issue and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether migration also plays a very important role in this and if so, the steps being taken by the Government to check this;**
- (e) whether the Government has made certain new provisions to save labourers from exploitation and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

(a) to (c): Labour being under the Concurrent List, the enforcement of labour laws is done by the State Governments and the Central Government in their respective jurisdictions. While in the Central Sphere, the enforcement is done through the Inspecting Officers of Central Industrial Relations Machinery (CIRM), the compliance in the State Sphere is ensured through the State Labour Enforcement Machinery.

Contd..2/-

A well-established CIRM, comprising of a country wide network of Deputy Chief Labour Commissioners and Regional Labour Commissioners under the control of Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), is in place to enforce various labour laws in Central Sphere. This Machinery is mandated to take necessary action to redress/ settle the grievances/ complaints/ claims arising out of the enforcement of various labour laws. For effective implementation of various labour laws, regular inspections are conducted by the Officers of CIRM.

(d) & (e): In order to safeguard the interest of the migrant workers, the Central Government had enacted the Inter-state Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979. This Act has now been subsumed in the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020, which has been notified on 29.09.2020. The above mentioned Code provides for decent working conditions and protection from exploitation to all categories of organised and unorganised workers, including migrant workers. The relevant provisions of the Code are applicable to every establishment in which 10 or more inter-state migrant workers are employed or were employed on any day of the preceding 12 months. The Code also provides for maintenance of data base or record for inter-state migrant workers, besides extending portability of benefits and other protections.

To provide the welfare of workers, including migrant workers, on matters relating to life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits, old age protection benefits, education etc., the Government has notified Social Security Code, 2020 on 29.09.2020

The Government has also notified the Code on Wages, 2019 and the Industrial Relations Code, 2020 on 08.08.2019 and 29.09.2020 respectively to further strengthen the protection available to workers, including migrant workers, in terms of statutory minimum wage and industrial disputes mechanism.