GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1307 TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2022

BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR REHABILITATION OF BONDED LABOUR

1307. SHRI DIBYENDU ADHIKARI:

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

- (a)whether it is a fact that budget allocation for 2022-23 has been reduced to Rs 1,168.03 crore against the revised allocation of Rs. 1,232.32 in 2021-2022;
- (b)if so, whether the Government has received any suggestions to include enhanced budgetary allocation for rehabilitation of bonded labour in the country; and
- (c)if so, detailed plan and action proposal towards elimination of child labour in the country thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a): The Budgetary Estimates of Ministry of Labour & Employment for 2022-23 is Rs.16893.68 crore whereas the Revised Estimates of 2021-22 was Rs. 14248.72 Crore.

(b): During 2022-23, Ministry of Labour & Employment has not received any suggestion / proposal to enhance the budgetary allocation of the Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer, 2016.

(c): The Government has taken a number of steps to prevent the children being employed as child labourers, and these include:-

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- (i) Enactment of the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Amendment Act, 2016 which provides for ban on employment on children below 14 years in any occupation/ process. It also provides for stricter punishment for employers for violation of the Act and made the offence as cognizable.
- (ii) Framing of Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Central Rules
- (iii) Framing of model State Action Plan enumerating action points to be taken by respective State Governments
- (iv) Identification and notification of the Occupations/ Processes where children below the age of fourteen cannot help; and also those Occupation/Processes where Adolescents cannot work.

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