GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2085 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.08.2024

BONDED LABOURERS

†2085. SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE:

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

- (a)the details of estimated number of bonded labourers across the country especially in backward and rural areas as on date, Statewise;
- (b)whether the Government has prepared/to be prepared any plan to rescue and rehabilitate the such labourers;
- (c)if so, the details thereof;
- (d)the details of bonded labourers rescued/rehabilitated so far;
- (e)whether any assistance has been provided particularly in the backward and rural areas of the country for this purpose during the last three years;
- (f)if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (g)whether any Committee has been constituted or proposed to be constituted to identify, rescue and rehabilitate bonded labourers, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f): In order to assist the State Governments in their task of rehabilitation of released bonded labourers, the Ministry of Labour & Employment is implementing a Central Sector Scheme i.e. Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer. The Scheme is demand driven. Under the Scheme, financial assistance for rehabilitation of a rescued bonded labourer is Rs. 1 lakh per adult male beneficiary, Rs. 2 lakhs for special category beneficiaries such as children including orphans or those rescued from organized & forced begging rings or other forms of forced child labour, and women and Rs. 3 lakhs in cases of bonded or forced labour involving extreme cases of deprivation or marginalization. Immediate cash assistance upto Rs. 30,000/- is provided to the rescued bonded labour by the District Administration.

The rehabilitation assistance amount is provided by the respective State / Union Territories to the rescued bonded labourers which are reimbursed by Central Government. The details of number of bonded labourers rescued & rehabilitated and details of rehabilitation amount reimbursed to States / UTs during 2021-22 to 2023-24, Statewise, is annexed.

(g): As per Section 13 of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, the State Government has to constitute Vigilance Committee in each district and each Sub-Division, as it may think fit, to advise the District Magistrate or any officer authorized by him for proper implementation of the Act. The Committee is also responsible for providing economic and social rehabilitation to the freed bonded labourers.

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Annexure

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2085 FOR 05.08.2024 BY SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE REGARDING BONDED LABOURERS.

Year	State / UT	Amount reimbursed to States (Rs. in lakh)	No. of Bonded Labourer Rehabilitated
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2021-22	Chhattisgarh	50.00	250
	Tamil Nadu	204.73	1016
	Bihar	58	290
	Rajasthan	10.00	50
2022-23	Rajasthan	14.00	70
	Uttar Pradesh	390.20	287
	Tamil Nadu	59.40	297
2023-24	Rajasthan	11.20	56
	Tamil Nadu	56.80	176
	Chhattisgarh	15.20	76
	Pondicherry	15.00	5
	Odisha	15.50	155
