GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.†2707 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2ND AUGUST, 2016/SHRAVANA 11, 1938 (SAKA)

SURVEY ON BONDED LABOUR

†2707. SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Walk Free Foundation has conducted a survey to determine the prevalence of modern slavery in the world and recently released, 2016 Global Slavery Index 2016;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that even today around 1.83 crore people are forced to work as bonded labour in the country and if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;
- (d) whether wages are not paid to these bonded labourers; and
- (e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check bonded labour in the country and the time by which justice is likely to be provided to these bonded labourers?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a) to (e): Survey mentioned is not the one conducted by the Government of India. Hence, the question of giving the details does not arise. As per the information provided by the National Crime

Records Bureau (NCRB), a total of 70 cases were registered under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 during 2014.

The Bonded Labour System has been abolished by law throughout the country with effect from 25th October, 1975 under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Ordinance which was replaced by the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. The responsibility for implementing the Act lies with the State Governments. As and when existence of bonded labour is detected, such persons are identified, released by judicial procedure as per the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 and rehabilitated by the State Governments under the Central Sector Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer, 2016.
