

Title: Regarding plight of labourers of Bihar working in Tajikistan.

SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY (SARAN): Several media reports have brought out that many labourers from Bihar have been trapped in Tajikistan, bound in contractual work, under appalling work conditions. As per information available in the media, these labourers are contract workers in Tajikistan who have been subjected to acutely deplorable living conditions. The contract of the workers is with an Indian placement company which is affiliated with a Tajikistan-based company. The company in which they are affiliated with has unilaterally increased their working duration to 14 hours per day without any commensurate increase in wages. Additionally, the labourers have also claimed that they are provided with inadequate and often unsafe and contaminated food. Many of these labourers have fallen ill and are unfit to continue work. Some estimates say that there are close to 50 labourers from Bihar currently waiting to be rescued but in the absence of reliable information the numbers could be much more. I request the Government to provide detailed information on the exact number of labourers from Bihar trapped in Tajikistan, their name and home district. I also request that they may be rescued and transported back home safely at the earliest.