

Study of problems of Bonded Labour

1715. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to carry out in depth the study of the problems of bonded labour to facilitate appropriate remedial action programme; and

(b) if so, the main features of the proposal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BAL GOVIND VERMA): (a) and (b). The National Labour Institute, an autonomous organisation under the Labour Ministry, has conducted a number of micro level studies on various aspects of the problems of the bonded labour. Some of their studies have been published in the National Labour Institute's Bulletin. That apart, a proposal for a comprehensive in depth study by the Director, Labour Bureau on the bonded labour system-District-wise estimate of magnitude and evaluation of the rehabilitation measures is under active consideration.

Special Cell for Coordinating Schemes for Agricultural Labour

1716. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a special cell to coordinate and monitor the schemes for Agricultural labour;

(b) if so, what is the exclusive strength of the Agriculture Cell created and the amount spent on it during 1975-76; and

(c) whether there is a proposal to strengthen the cell to coordinate and monitor the schemes more effectively under 20-point economic programme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BAL GOVIND VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir:

(b) The strength of the Cell during 1975-76 was as follows:—

Section Officer	1
Investigator	2
Assistant	1
L.D.C.	1

The expenditure incurred during 1975-76 was Rs. 45.304.

(c) Since the introduction of the Abolition of the Bonded Labour System Act, the State Governments/ Union Territories have been requested to formulate schemes for the rehabilitation of emancipated bonded labour. Action is also being taken to introduce legislation for the welfare of Agricultural Workers. The question of strengthening the Cell is under constant review.

Issue of Stamp on Occasion of Birth Centenary of Saint Gadge Maharaj

1717. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have sent a proposal to issue a stamp on the occasion of the birth centenary of the Saint Gadge Maharaj this year; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) and (b). The proposal for the issue of a commemorative stamp on the birth centenary of Gadge Maharaj in 1976 was received from the Mayor of Poona in May, 1976, but due to very short notice given, it was not possible to accommodate the same in the programme. No separate proposal was received from the Government of Maharashtra.