

Construction Workers in West Asian Countries

5422. SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have noticed the report of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) about the worsening position of the wages and working conditions of migrant construction workers (including those from India) who are working in Western Asian countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A relative slow-down in construction activity in the Middle East, an increasing supply of labour and often exorbitant fees charged by Recruiting Agents, have contributed to deterioration in the terms & conditions of work for Asian migrant construction workers. In many labour receiving countries, legislation exist which could offer some protection, however, it is not always enforced through an effective system of labour inspection. International standards and conventions can serve as guidelines as to

what could be achieved. When specific cases of ill-treatment come to notice, the Government takes up the matter through bilateral channels.

[Translation]

Welfare of Handicapped

5423. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the economic and physical targets fixed during the years 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 for the welfare of handicapped, deaf and dumb persons, State/Union Territory-wise; and

(b) the achievements of these targets till August 15, 1996?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) As the welfare of the handicapped involves continuous efforts and needs long term persistent attention, no specific targets have been fixed for the same.

(b) Statements I and II are enclosed.

STATEMENT-I**ASSISTANCE TO VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS FOR 1995-96**

(Amt. in Rs.)

STATE/UT	Assistance to Vol. Orgn. for the Disabled (General Scheme)			Assistance to Vol. Orgn. for Rehab. of Leprosy Cured Persons			Assistance to Vol. Orgn. for Estt. & Dev. of Spl. Schools			Assistance to Vol. Orgn. for persons with Disabilities & Mental Retardation			
	No. of NGOs	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount Released	No. of NGOs	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount Released	No. of NGOs	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount Released	No. of NGOs	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount Released	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44	5016	4,15,42,487	—	—	—	4	147	10,79,862	2	40	6,05,947
2.	Assam	2	127	3,96,972	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3.	Bihar	20	1192	55,47,733	—	—	—	1	30	2,24,460	—	—	—
4.	Goa	2	136	6,45,434	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	Gujarat	11	23092	28,48,912	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Haryana	4	1518	10,45,763	—	—	—	2	65	4,49,630	—	—	—
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1	180	15,35,610	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	60	3,07,528	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Karnataka	45	5812	2,07,01,405	1	20	15,000	2	90	9,51,588	—	—	—
10.	Kerala	41	3095	1,43,53,112	—	—	—	3	212	5,56,440	2	60	9,24,247
11.	Madhya Pradesh	3	215	95,934	—	—	—	1	45	90,693	—	—	—