

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2797
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2000
PLIGHT OF BRASSWARE WORKERS
ANANDRAO ADSUL;CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the plight of Brassware Workers of Moradabad who are exposed to toxic chemical and metallic fumes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the reaction of the Government thereto alongwith the measures taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a) & (b) : As per information received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh brassware workers are exposed to metallic fumes of copper and zinc, dust emanating due to polishing operation; and toxic electrolytes containing compounds of chromium, nickel, silver and copper along with cyanides of potassium and sodium during various operations of brass and brassware making.

(c) : The State Government of Uttar Pradesh, under the provisions of Section 87 of the Factories` Act, 1948, has declared the brass and brassware making as a dangerous process in view of worker`s exposure to serious risk of bodily injury, poisoning and disease. The state Government has also framed rules providing for prohibition or restriction in the matter of employment of women and young persons in the manufacturing process or operation; periodical medical examination of persons employed, or seeking to be employed, in the manufacturing process or operation, and protection of all persons employed in the manufacturing process or operation or in the vicinity of the places where it is carried on. The rules also provide for additional welfare amenities, sanitary facilities and the supply of protective equipment and clothing and laying down the standards thereof, having regard to the dangerous nature of the manufacturing process or operation.