GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5999
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2003
LABOUR REFORMS
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Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether labour reforms in the country are imperative to make the foreign trade of the country competitive in the international trade;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government have also formulated any proposals for reforms in the labour sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI VIJAY GOEL)

(a) to (d): Review/updation of labour laws is a continuous process in order to bring them in tune with the prevailing situation and emerging needs of the economy. Taking into consideration the requirement of productivity, competitiveness, investment, foreign trade and employment generation, a need has been felt to make amendments in certain labour legislations and steps initiated. Accordingly, the process of labour reforms has been initiated and amendments in certain labour legislations viz. the Trade Unions Act, 1926, the Workmen`s Compensation Act, 1923 and the Cine Workers` Welfare Fund Act, 1981 carried out.

2. Meanwhile, the Second National Commission on Labour has submitted its report to the Government. The Commission has made wide-ranging recommendations on various facets of labour, viz. review of laws, social security, women & child labour, skill development, wages, labour administration, unorganised sector etc. The Report of the Commission was discussed at the 38th Session of Indian Labour Conference held on 28-29 September 2002, a National Seminar on Unorganised Sector Workers on 7-8 November 2002 and a Tripartite Committee Meeting held on 18-19 February 2003. Such initiatives are necessary for evolving consensus on important matters relating to labour. The amendments to various labour laws would be brought about keeping in views the requirements of social partners and after ensuring that the workers` interests are fully protected. Given the procedure involved, it is, however, difficult to state any time limit.