

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:933
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2000
WORKERS OF ORGANISED AND UNORGANISED SECTOR
NAMDEO HARBAJI DIWATHE

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the conference of State Labour Ministers was recently held at New Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details of the issues discussed;
- (c) the details of major policy decisions taken on problems concerning workers in organised and unorganised sector particularly agricultural workers; and
- (d) the action taken to eradicate bonded labour system prevailing in some parts of rural areas?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): Yes, Sir. A State Labour Ministers` Conference was held on 18.1.2000 in New Delhi to discuss the draft legislation for agricultural workers.
- (c): The proposal for a central legislation for the welfare of agricultural workers is being re-examined on the basis of the views/comments received in the said Conference.
- (d): The bonded labour system has been abolished throughout the country w.e.f. 25.10.1975 under Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Ordinance, 1975 subsequently replaced by an Act of Parliament. The Act is being implemented by the State Governments. The Government has issued detailed guidelines to the State Governments for effective implementation of the Act. With a view to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in rehabilitating the released bonded labourers, the Ministry of Labour is operating a Centrally Sponsored Scheme since 1978 under which financial assistance upto the ceiling limit of Rs. 10,000/- is given for the rehabilitation of each released bonded labourer.