

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1813
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2001
PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATIONS
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Trade Unions have objected to the Courts entertaining public interest litigations against strike and pronouncing anti labour judgements;
- (b) whether the recent judgement of the Apex Court relaxing contract labour laws for public sector undertakings by quashing a 1976 notification by the centre prohibiting use of contract labour in certain types of jobs;
- (c) whether the Government propose to file any appeal reviewing petition against this judgement so as to protect the interest of the labour class; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

- (a) No such information has come to the notice of the Department of Justice.
- (b) The notification dated 9.12.1976 of the Central Government in the Ministry of Labour prohibiting employment of contract labour in the jobs of sweeping, cleaning, dusting and watching of buildings owned or occupied by establishments in respect of which the Central Government is the `appropriate Government` , has been quashed by a five Judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court vide their judgement dated 30.8.2001 in the case of SAIL & Others Vs. National Union of Waterfront Workers and Others.
- (c)&(d) The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970. contains provisions for protecting the interests of contract labour in respect of working conditions, payment of wages and other amenities relating to their welfare and health.