

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:32
ANSWERED ON:05.07.2004
CONDITION OF WORKING WOMEN IN INFORMAL SECTOR
Chowdhury Shri Bikash;Sen Smt. Minati

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware about the pathetic working conditions of women in the informal sectors; and
- (b) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to improve their working condition?

Answer

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA)

(a) & (b): Government is aware of the need to ameliorate the working conditions of women workers.

Several laws have been enacted to secure reasonable working conditions for women workers and to prevent their exploitation. These include the Factories Act, 1948, the Plantation Labour Act, 1951, the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, the Inter-State Migrant Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979, the Maternity Benefit act, 1961, the Building and Other Construction (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996, etc. which provide inter alia, crèche facilities for the benefit of women workers, time off for feeding children during working hours, separate toilets and washing facilities near the workplace, provision of maternity leave, etc. The Government has also enacted the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 which provides for non-discrimination in the matters relating to payment of wages.