

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3850

ANSWERED ON:19.04.2010

WELFARE AND UPLIFTMENT OF LABOURERS WORKERS

Antony Shri Anto;Biju Shri P. K.;Mahato Shri Narahari;Pakirappa Shri S.;Pratap Narayanrao Shri Sonawane;Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausaheb;Rama Devi Smt. ;Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

- (a) the percentage and number of labourers/workers both organised and unorganised engaged in different sectors including, agricultural, industrial, service sectors during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise and sector-wise;
- (b) the details of schemes/programmes being run by the Government for the safety, security, welfare and upliftment of such labourers/workers during the said period, sector-wise;
- (c) the salient features of such schemes/programmes alongwith the number of labourers/workers benefited therefrom during the said period, State-wise, sector-wise and year-wise;
- (d) the funds allocated, released and expenditure incurred under such schemes/programmes during the said period, State-wise, year-wise and schemes/programmes-wise;
- (e) whether the Union Government has received requests from various States for allocation of additional assistance to States under such schemes/programmes;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Union Government to stop exploitation of labourers/workers engaged in such sectors?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

- (a): According to the survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) in 2004-05, the total number of labourers was 45.9 crore. Out of which about 94% of the total workforce were in unorganised sector and remaining 6% were in the organized sector. Out of 94% workers in the unorganized sector, 58.4% were in agriculture sector, 18.2% in Industrial and 23.4% in services sector. The annual figures are not available.
- (b) to (d): The organized workers are covered under social security legislations i.e. Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948. The Government is implementing various schemes providing for social security to the workers in the unorganized sector. A Statement showing financial assistance under some of the schemes under Schedule-I of the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008 is at Annexure-I. A statement showing financial assistance under welfare schemes for beedi workers is at Annexure-II.
- (e) & (f): Requests from the State Governments for additional allocation as and when received are examined and funds are allocated for different social security schemes depending upon the availability of resources.
- (g): The Government has initiated several measures for the protection of the labourers in the unorganised sector. Various labour laws like the Minimum Wages Act, 1948; the Workmen Compensation Act, 1923; the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976; the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service) Act, 1996, Contract Labour (Abolition & Prohibition) Act, 1970, Inter-State Migrant Workmen (RECS) Act, 1979 etc. are applicable to the labour in the unorganized sector also. Recently the Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act has been enacted to provide social security to the unorganized workers.