

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2185
ANSWERED ON:20.07.2009
HEALTH AND SAFETY OF EMPLOYEES
Panda Shri Baijayant

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a national policy on occupational safety and health at workplace to ensure employees' health and safety;
- (b) if so, the details and salient features thereof;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes to make it mandatory both for public and private sector; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI HARISH RAWAT)

(a) & (b): The Government of India has declared the National Policy on Safety, Health and Environment at Workplace on 20th February, 2009. The salient features of the National Policy are as under:-

- (i) It recognizes safe and healthy working environment as a fundamental human right.
- (ii) It aims at enhancing the well-being of the employees and the society at large by eliminating work related injuries, diseases, etc.
- (iii) It enumerates the goals to be achieved and brings into focus the objective of continuous reduction in the incidence of work related injuries and diseases.
- (iv) It describes the action programme with nine key strategies i.e. Enforcement, Development of national standards, Compliance, Awareness, Research and Development, Skills development, Data collection, Practical guidance and Incentives.
- (v) It also provides for regular review at least once in five years.

(c) & (d): The National Policy is applicable to all the branches of economic activity in the country. The employers, employees, Government departments and all other stakeholders are required to adhere to the principles enshrined in the Policy.