

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4901  
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2010  
CONDITION OF TEXTILE WORKERS  
Bheiravdanji Shri Gadhvi Mukeshkumar

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

- (a) whether the conditions of textile workers including powerloom workers is pitiable in the country and also they are working more than eight hours;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): For textile and powerloom workers, adequate provisions relating to safety, health and welfare of workers including working hours exist in the Factories act, 1948. This Act is enforced by the State Governments through their Factory Inspectorates. The Act also empowers the State Government to frame rules, so that the local conditions prevailing in the State are appropriately reflected in the enforcement. In the Act there are specific provisions relating to working hours including weekly hours, weekly holidays, compensatory holidays, daily hours, intervals for rest, night shift, prohibition of overlapping shifts, extra wages for overtime, etc. The State Governments/UTs enforce the provisions of the Factories Act, 1948 and the State Factories Rules framed there under. The Inspectors of Factories appointed under Section 8 of the Factories act, 1948 are empowered to inspect the factories, make examination of the premises, plant, machinery, article or substances; direct the occupier to take corrective measures to prevent the workers from hazardous of the plant and machinery; enquire into any accident; issue show cause notices and initiate prosecutions against the managements found violating the provisions of the Act and rules framed there under.

Ministry of Textiles has informed that they have a Textile Workers Rehabilitation Fund Scheme also to provide interim relief to the workers rendered unemployed due to permanent closure/liquidation of textile units in non-SSI private sector. As per the condition under the scheme, the scheme is applicable to units which have been completely closed after 5.6.1985 and have been declared as closed unit under Section 25(O) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, or alternatively an Official Liquidator is appointed under Companies Act, 1956, for the purpose of winding up of the unit.

For welfare of Powerloom workers they also implement a Group Insurance scheme through LIC.