

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:100
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2010
UNREST AMONG LABOURERS
Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

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

- (a) the status of manpower and labour capacity building in the country;
- (b) whether the labour unrest in the country has increased during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor indicating the number of such disputes reported during the said period, State-wise and yearwise; and
- (d) the major policies and programmes of the Government to address the problems of labourers/workers?

Answer

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

(a): The Ministry of Labour & Employment has formulated a National Policy on Skill Development with a target to train 500 million persons by the year 2022. It covers youth of various ages including the existing workforce who would be able to obtain skills/ upgrade their skills through various schemes of the government. An important scheme in this connection is the Skill Development Initiative Scheme where even the existing workers can upgrade their skills.

(b) & (c): A statement showing number of disputes, State-wise during the last three years and the current year, as per the statistics compiled by the Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour & Employment, is Annexed. As is evident, significant increase has not been recorded during the said period. The main reasons for industrial unrest are disputes between the workers and management on issues such as wages & allowances, bonus, personnel matters, retrenchment, leave & hours of work and indiscipline & violence.

(d): The objective of addressing the problems of labourers/workers are sought to be achieved through enactment and implementation of various labour laws on the one hand and implementing schemes for the welfare of the labourers on the other. The legislative measures include the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961, the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970, the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979, the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service) Act, 1996, etc.. In addition, the Ministry has enacted the Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act, 2008. Further, the Government has set up Welfare Funds for providing welfare measures to the beedi, non-coal mine and cine workers. The Funds are used to provide financial assistance to these workers for education of their children, recreation, medical and health facilities, construction of houses, etc. The Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 also has provision for setting up of welfare Board/Fund by every State Government to provide welfare/social security measures to the construction workers. Moreover, social security to the organized sector is provided through the schemes framed under the Employees' Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, Employees' Insurance Act, 1948 & Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972. Other important schemes include National Child Labour Project, Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana and Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour.