

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1619  
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2011  
BONDED LABOURERS  
Upadhyay Seema,Verma Smt. Usha

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

- (a) the State-wise number of bonded labourers during the last three years identified;
- (b) the detailed action taken by the Government at various levels for abolition of the same;
- (c) the hurdles in abolition of bonded labour practice in the country;
- (d) whether the Government has set a time limit for abolition of bonded labour practice; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT(SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

(a) to (e): A statement is annexed.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1619 FOR 07.03.2011 BY SHRIMATI SEEMA UPADHYAY, SHRIMATI USHA VERMA REGARDING BONDED LABOURERS.

(a) to (e): The number of bonded labourers identified released and rehabilitated during the last three years, State-wise is as under:

Year	Name of the State/UTs	No. of bonded labourers identified, released and rehabilitated
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2008-09	Bihar	409
	Uttar Pradesh	80
	West Bengal	54

2009-10	Bihar	264
	Uttar Pradesh	100

2010-11	Chhattisgarh	586
(up to 31.12.2010)	Uttar Pradesh	100
	West Bengal	77

2. The Bonded Labour System has been abolished by law throughout the country with effect from 25th October, 1975 under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Ordinance which was replaced by the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. As and when existence of bonded labour is detected, such persons are identified for rehabilitation.

3. The responsibility for rehabilitating the freed bonded labourers lies with the respective State Governments. In order to assist the State Government in the task of rehabilitation of identified and released bonded labourers, a Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour is in operation since May, 1978. Under the scheme, rehabilitation assistance @ Rs. 20,000/- per bonded labour is provided which is equally shared by the Central and State Government.

4. A Special Group has been constituted under the Chairpersonship of Secretary (Labour & Employment) to review and monitor the implementation of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. The Group is holding region-wise meetings from time to time to impress upon the State Governments to effectively implement the Act.

5. In collaboration with the ILO, the Central Government and State Government of Tamil Nadu have launched a pilot project in the State for the purpose of reducing vulnerability to bondage through promotion of decent work. The project is being considered for replication

in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and Haryana.