

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:435

ANSWERED ON:07.05.2012

RIGHT TO WORK

Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram;Rana Shri Jagdish Singh

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

- (a) whether suggestions have been received from various quarters to include the right to work as a fundamental right in the Constitution in order to provide employment to the unemployed youth;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to make the right to work, a fundamental right; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 435 DUE FOR REPLY ON 07.05.2012 BY SHRI JAGDISH SINGH RANA AND SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN, M.Ps. REGARDING RIGHT TO WORK

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. This issue has been raised on several occasions in both the Houses of Parliament by Hon'ble Members through Private Member's Bills and Resolutions. Some of them are: Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh Naik, Shri N.S.V. Chitthan, Shri J.P. Agarwal and Dr. Janardhan Waghmare.

(c) & (d) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government. If Right to Work is made a Fundamental right, it would be necessary for the State to find matching jobs for all the people who seek employment. But given the country's resource constraints, it is not possible to make Right to Work a Fundamental right at present. However, the Government has taken several steps to provide decent opportunities of livelihood to all those who seek employment. A provision under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005 has been made to provide at least one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled work. Government is taking all necessary steps to enhance the employability and employment in the country by promoting growth of labour intensive sectors such as Construction, Real Estate and Housing, Transport, Tourism, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Information Technology Enabled Services and a range of other new services. Besides, Government is also providing self employment opportunities in the rural areas through National Rural Livelihood Mission.

Approach Paper to the 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17) suggests focus on faster, sustainable and more inclusive growth for creating adequate livelihood opportunities. Such job opportunities could come from faster expansion in agro-processing, supply chains, steady modernization in farming, maintenance of equipment & other elements of rural infrastructure and the services sector.