

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND WELFARE
(2000-2001)**

(THIRTEENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF LABOUR

THE CINE WORKERS WELFARE FUND (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2000

ELEVENTH REPORT

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

MARCH, 2001/PHALGUNA, 1922(Saka)

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Dr. Sushil Kumar Indora-Chairman

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2. Shri J.P.Sharma-Deputy Secretary
3. Shri B.D. Swan - Under Secretary

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Labour and Welfare (2000-2001) having been authorised by the Committee to submit the report on their behalf present this Eleventh Report on **The Cine Workers Welfare Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2000** of the Ministry of Labour.

2. The Bill was introduced in Lok Sabha on 13th December, 2000 and was referred to the Committee by the Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha under Rule 331E(b) of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha for examination and Report.

3. The Committee wish to express their sincere thanks to the officers of the Ministry of Labour for placing before them detailed written notes on the subject and for furnishing the information the Committee desired in connection with the examination of the Bill.

4. The Committee considered the Bill clause-by-clause and also considered and adopted their Report on **The Cine Workers Welfare Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2000** at their sitting held on _____ .

NEW DELHI;

March, 2000
Phalguna, 1922(Saka)

DR.SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA
Chairman,
Standing Committee on
Labour and Welfare.

REPORT

The Committee was informed that The Cine Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1981 has been enacted to provide for the financing of activities to promote the welfare of workers in the film industry. There are approximately 63,000 workers engaged in the Cine Industry spread over in the States of Tamilnadu, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, Karnataka, Gujarat, Orissa and Kerala.

2. The Act envisages extension of welfare measures such as health and medical care and educational assistance to cine workers and their family members. The corpus of the Fund is created out of a cess levied and collected as a duty of excise on feature films certified by Central Board of Film Certification, which is credited to the Consolidated Fund of India under section 5 of the Cine Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1981. The Act is applicable to cine workers who have been defined in Section 2(b)(ii), which are reproduced below:-

“2(b) ‘Cine Worker’ means an individual -

(ii) whose remuneration with respect to such employment in or in connection with the production of each of any five feature films, has not exceeded, where such remuneration has been by way of monthly wages, a sum of one thousand and six hundred rupees per month, and where such remuneration has been by way of a lump sum, a sum of eight thousand rupees”.

3. The above definition covers 30,000 cine-workers and their dependent who are getting benefits under the various welfare scheme. The ceiling of Rs.1600/- pm. Where the remuneration is paid by way of monthly wages or a sum of Rs.8000/- where such remuneration has been by way of lump sum was last revised in 1987 by amendment of the Act. Since then there has been substantial increase in wages/remuneration of cine workers. Consequently, there has been a demand to increase the wage/remuneration limit under the Act so that the cine workers, who are presently outside the definition of cine workers due to increased wages/remuneration, are also covered under the definition of cine workers.

4. In view of the above fact and in order to bring the bulk of the hitherto neglected cine workers under the ambit of the welfare provisions, it is proposed to amend Section 2(b)(ii) of the Cine Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1981. By this amendment the Central Government will be authorised to prescribe the wages/remuneration of cine workers by issue of notification in the Gazette of India from time to time. The income ceiling has been removed from the Act in order to avoid the exercise of frequently amending the Act, in case, it is considered necessary and desirable to increase the ceiling of remuneration of cine workers from time to time.

5. At present, however, the income ceiling will be notified as Rs.3,500/- where the remuneration is paid by way of monthly wages and Rs.42,000/- where such remuneration has been by way of lump sum.

6. The Committee was further informed that by this amendment approximately 33,000 cine workers would be added, thus raising the total number of cine workers to be covered under the welfare provision to 63,000 approximately. At present the Fund is incurring an expenditure of about Rs.21 lakhs but with increased efforts and by extending the coverage it is anticipated that it may incur an annual expenditure of about Rs.45/- lakhs as against the income of Rs.50/- lakhs. It would, thus, be seen that the income of the Fund is adequate to cover the increased level of expenditure.

7. The Committee note that the ceiling on wage/remuneration prescribed under the Cine Workers Welfare are Fund Act, 1981 for definition of cine workers has been removed in order to avoid frequent amendments in the Act and to bring all the workers engaged in the Cine Industry within the scope of 'Cine Workers' so that they can benefit from the various welfare provisions. The Committee further note that the income of the Fund is adequate to cover any increased in expenditure arising from an additional 33,000 cine workers to be brought within the purview of the Act. The Committee, therefore, approve the amending Bill in its entirety and support it without any amendments.

NEW DELHI;

**25 July, 2000
3 Sravana,1922(Saka)**

**DR.SUSHIL KUMAR INDORA
Chairman,
Standing Committee on
Labour and Welfare.**