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Title: Need to provide adequate wages and other service benefits to the contract workmen engaged in Paradip Port Trust, Odisha.

SHRI BIBHU PRASAD TARAI (JAGATSINGHPUR): I would like to raise the issue regarding the problems being faced by the skilled as well as unskilled contract workmen engaged in the Paradip Port Trust. It is a matter of concern that in the recent past a large number of workers are being engaged on contract by various Central Government Ministries and Departments subsequently reducing the number of direct employment in Paradip Port Trust. It is seen that the contract workmen who have been working for more than fifteen years and performing the same or similar kind of work done by the directly recruited employees are getting a meagre amount of wage and are also deprived of other statutory provisions like EPF, bonus, number of holidays, hours of work etc. In this regard, I would like to mention that the Deputy Chief Labour Commissioner, Dhanbad passed an order No. 35(1)/2003-DY CLC dated 10 November, 2004 under Rule 25(2)(v)(a)/(b) of Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Central Rules, 1971, determining the wage rates and other conditions of service pertaining to the contract workmen of Paradip Port Trust who are engaged in the work other than the Scheduled Employment as specified in the Minimum Wages Act. The Deputy Chief Labour commissioner as per his order suggested for 76% hike in minimum wage given to the contract workmen. But the above order of Deputy Chief Labour Commissioner, Dhanbad has not been complied with by Paradip Port Trust as principal employers and contractors appointing the contract workmen have consistently been violating the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970.

In this connection, I would like to urge upon the Government to ensure the compliance of the provisions of the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 as well as the order of the Deputy Chief Labour Commissioner, Dhanbad dated 10 November, 2004 in the interest and welfare of the contract workmen employed in Paradip Port Trust, Odisha.