

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
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LOK SABHA

Liberation and rehabilitation of bonded labourers

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Kartika 24, 1932

According to the reports received from the State Governments, the total number of bonded labourers identified and released as on 30.09.2010 is 2,89,225. As and when existence of bonded labour is detected, such persons are identified for rehabilitation.

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. The responsibility for implementing the Act lies with the State Governments. In order to assist the State Governments, 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 Governments. **Statement showing number of bonded labourers identified, released and rehabilitated under the Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme up to 30.09.2010:**

Name of the State	Number of Bonded Labourers		
	Identified and Released	Rehabilitated	Central assistance provided (Rs. in lakhs)
Andhra Pradesh	37988	31534	850.00
Arunachal Pradesh	3,526	2992	568.48
Bihar	14,615	13797	476.48
Chhattisgarh	710	710	71.00
Gujarat	64	64	1.01
Haryana	591	89	4.93
Jharkhand	196	196	19.60
Karnataka	63,437	57185	1578.18
Kerala	823	710	15.56
Madhya Pradesh	13,317	12,392	169.90
Maharashtra	1,404	1,325	10.10
Orissa	50,029	46901	903.34
Punjab	69	69	6.90
Rajasthan	7488	6331	72.42
Tamil Nadu	65,573	65,573	1661.94
Uttar Pradesh	29,046	29,046	655.52
Uttaranchal	5	5	0.50
West Bengal	344	344	27.26
TOTAL	2,89,225*	2,69,263	7093.13

* 19962 Bonded Labourers are not available for rehabilitation either they have died or left the place without leaving their addresses.

Statement showing details of financial assistance provided by the Central Government to the State Government for rehabilitation of bonded labourers during the last two years and the current year:

Year	Name of the State/UTs	No. Of bonded labour rehabilitated	Financial Assistance provided (Rs. In Lakhs)
2008-2009	Bihar	409	36.00
	Uttar Pradesh	80	7.98
	West Bengal	54	5.40
2009-10	Bihar	264	22.10
	Uttar Pradesh	100	12.23
2010-2011 (Upto 30.09.2010)	Chhattisgarh	586	58.60
	Uttar Pradesh	100	10.00
	West Bengal	77	6.85

The Minister of Labour and Employment Shri Mallikarjun Kharge gave this information in reply to a question in the Lok Sabha today.

YSK/P