

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:939  
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2002  
WELFARE OF SALT WORKERS  
PUSHPDAN SHAMBHUDAN GADHAVI

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the government have formulated any programme for the welfare of salt workers in the country, specially in Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated to each State for the purpose during the last three years, year-wise;and
- (c) the further steps being initiated by the government in this regard?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ( DR. RAMAN SINGH).

(a) The implementation of the various labour laws for the welfare of labour including labourers employed in the salt industry is the responsibility of the labour Department of the respective State governments. Office of the salt Commissioner, an attached office of this Department is supplementing efforts of the state Government by extending financial assistance to execute various labour welfare schemes such as educational facilities for the children of workers, health check up, construction of labour rest sheds, ware supply schemes, labour housing, provision of Community Centres/recreation facilities and audio-visual aids for improving skills in production of Salt/Quality control etc. Office of the Salt Commissioner also extends financial assistance to the salt works affected by natural calamities by way of granting relief in the form of ex-gratia grant and loans for rehabilitation. During the last three years, office of the Salt Commissioner has extended financial assistance to the tune of Rs. 42.79 lakhs on the labour Welfare Schemes. The State wise and year-wise details of funds allocated are as under:-

(Figures in Rupees)

S.No. State 1998-1999 1999-2000 2000-2001

1 Gikstsy 303261 1182102 1669066

2 Andhra 62644 11046 -  
Pradesh

3 Tamil Nadu - 109615 97886

4 West Bangal - 103131 -

5 Orissa - 105514 10377

6 Maharashtra - - -

7 Karnataka - - -

8 Rajasthan - 2605 6218830

Total 365905 1514013 2399159

(b) The Code of Principles formulated by the Government for extending financial assistance for execution of the developmental and labour welfare works in the salt factories accords priority for the execution of Labour Welfare Schemes. State Governments and the Salt producers have also been advised to sponsor more schemes for the welfare of the labourers.