

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4534  
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2005  
BONDED LABOURERS  
Satpathy Shri Tathagata;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

- (a) whether the supply of labour exceeds demand by a huge margin resulting highly exploitative forms of work; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government for effective implementation of the existing regulations relating to prohibition of bonded labour and child labour and monitoring the condition of migrant workers?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO)

(a): As per the employment and unemployment survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation during 1999-2000, out of a total labour force of 406 million on usual status basis, around 9 million are openly unemployed.

(b): The Government has taken a number of steps by enacting different labour laws like the Minimum Wages Act, 1948; the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976; the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986; Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act, 1979; the Building & Other Construction Workers Act, 1996; the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970; etc. to prevent exploitation of workers. The Government has also introduced the National Rural Employment Guarantee Bill in the Parliament with the object to generate at least 100 days of employment in a year, to at least one person in every rural household on asset creating public works programmes.