

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3814  
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2005  
CONTRACT LABOUR  
Khair Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao

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

- (a) the estimated number of contract labour in PSUs, Central and State Government and Private Sector as per the latest information;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that over the past one decade, the number of contract labour even on regular and perennial operations in Government/PSUs have increased by leaps and bound while the service and working conditions of these contract workers continue to deteriorate in practice;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has surveyed the conditions of contract labour recently; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith steps taken to remedy the situation?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d): A statement is annexed.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3814 BY SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE REGARDING CONTRACT LABOUR FOR ANSWER ON 19.12.2005

(a): In accordance with the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970, both the Central and State Government are 'appropriate Government' in respect of establishments coming within their respective spheres of jurisdiction. In the Central Sphere, the number of contract labour covered by licenses issued during the year 2004-05 were 968792.

(b) to (d): The Government is aware that the contract labour system is generally prevalent in various establishments. The Labour Bureau of the Ministry of Labour carries out surveys on the working conditions of contract labour from time to time. During the year 2000-2001, a survey in four industries/establishments namely Cement Manufacturing Industry, Cement Related Mines, Food Corporation of India's depots and National Thermal Power Corporation units was conducted. As per the report, the provisions of the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 and other labour laws are, by and large, being complied with by the establishments/contractors. It has also been reported that contract workers were deployed on jobs which were of regular nature in the establishments/industries surveyed other than National Thermal Power Corporation. Adequate provisions exist in the various labour laws including the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 to protect the interests of contract labour in terms of their wages, welfare, health and social security. Several notifications have been issued by both the Central and State Governments prohibiting employment of contract labour in perennial nature of jobs/works/processes. Regular inspections are conducted and violations are dealt with strictly in accordance with the provisions of the law, by launching prosecutions also, if necessary.