

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:364
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2014
TEA PLANTATION WORKERS
Teli Shri Rameswar

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

- (a) whether workers of Tea Plantation constitute a major portion of the plantation workforce: in the country and if so, the details thereof including the number of plantation workers working in tea and other plantation estates;
- (b) whether the Government is aware of pitiable conditions of plantation workers and if so, the details thereof, along with various statutes enacted for regulating service conditions and welfare of these workers; and
- (c) whether the Government proposes to review and amend various provisions of these Acts and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES, LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TONIAR)

(a) to (c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 364 BY SHRI RAMESWAR TELI REGARDING 'TEA PLANTATION WORKERS' TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.08.2014.

Yes, Madam. The Tea Plantation workers constitute a major portion of the Plantation workforce in the country. The Tea Industry provides direct employment to approximately 11.22 lakhs workers. In addition, about 12.25 lakhs workers are engaged in Coffee, Rubber and Cardamom (small & large) Plantations.

The Plantation Labour Act, 1951 provides for regulation of the working conditions and welfare of workers in the Tea Plantations. The Tea Act, 1953 provides for management of various aspects of tea sector including management or control of tea undertakings or tea units. In addition to the two Acts, other industrial and social security legislations are also applicable to the Tea garden workers.

The Plantations Labour Act, 1951 was amended in 2010 to make it a comprehensive legislation for the welfare of the plantation labour. The implementation of the Act, however, vests with the respective State Governments. At present, no suggestion to amend the Act has been received from any State Government.