

# Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourers- 2016

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*Source: PIB & Ministry of Labour and Employment*

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 has been in operation since May, 1978. **The Government has revamped the Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourers with effect from 17th May, 2016**

## Key features of the scheme

### ▪ **Financial assistance:**

1. Financial assistance is provided for rehabilitation of rescued bonded labourer at the rate of rupees **one lakh for adult male beneficiary**
2. **Rs. 2 lakh for special category beneficiaries such as children including orphans or those rescued from organized & forced begging rings** or other forms of forced child labour, and women and
3. **Rs. 3 lakh in cases of bonded or forced labour involving extreme cases of deprivation** or marginalization such as trans-genders, or women or children rescued from ostensible sexual exploitation such as brothels, massage parlours, placement agencies etc., or trafficking, or in cases of differently abled persons, or in situations where the District Magistrate deems fit.
4. The financial assistance for rehabilitation is **100% reimbursed by the Central Government.**
5. The Scheme also provides for **financial assistance**

**of Rs. 4.50 lakh per district to the States for conducting survey of bonded labourers, Rs. 1.00 Lakh for evaluatory studies and Rs. 10 Lakhs per State per annum for awareness generation.** Central Government will give 50% of the amount required for conducting Survey, Awareness Generation and Evaluatory Studies in advance. A State may conduct survey once in every three years per sensitive district. A State may conduct five Evaluatory Studies per year.

- Bonded Labour Rehabilitation Fund**
- The release of rehabilitation assistance has been linked with conviction of the accused. However, immediate assistance upto Rs. 20,000/- may be provided to the rescued bonded labour by the District Administration irrespective of the status of conviction proceedings.
  - **Bonded Labour Rehabilitation Fund:** The Scheme provides for creation of a Bonded Labour Rehabilitation Fund at District level by each State with a permanent corpus of at least **Rs. 10 lakh at the disposal of the District Magistrate** for extending immediate help to the released bonded labourers.
  - The benefits prescribed above shall be, in addition to, other cash or non-cash benefits which a beneficiary under this scheme is entitled to, by or under any other scheme or law applicable for the time being in force.