

# Maharashtra to create a conducive environment for contract labour

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MUMBAI: Maharashtra will work towards a conducive contract labour environment. A two year road map has been drawn up, which will not only make it easier to do business in the state, but also create a win-win scenario for both the industry and workers when it comes to contract employment.

Addressing a niche gathering, at the National Employment Conference, organised by the Indian Staffing Federation (ISF), Sambhaji Patil Nilangekar, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of Maharashtra, said: "We have drawn up a two year road map, our objective is to transfer the unorganised sector into a proper organised sector."

He assured the ISF leaders that the state would look into their suggestions, especially on the administrative front. "The government would strike a balance between industry needs and those of the workforce," the minister said.

Currently, even when contract labour is provided by a registered staffing agency, the company to whom such labour is supplied (known as the principal employer) has to register each site if more than twenty contract labourers are employed.

Maharashtra dominates the formal employment landscape with 72.8 lakh organised workforce and topping the chart of Indian states with 3.6 lakh flexi (temporary or contract) workforce employed so far, according to ISF.