

"Amendment made in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, made during emergency, adding chapter V-B should go lock, stock and barrel", - Y K Modi, Past President FICCI.

New Delhi, 11 August, 2014: Welcoming Government initiative to bring reforms in labour policies, FICCI stated that although it has set the ball rolling, there are other important changes that need to be addressed to, to make Indian industry investment and employment friendly.

Upward revision of ceiling on overtime from 50 hours a quarter to 100 hours in a quarter would help export oriented units to discharge their commitments within the time frame and earn credibility in the global market. Similarly, not restricting women to work in the night shift while the employer can provide them safety and protection, would boost production and productivity.

Amendment in the Apprentices Act would enable industry to utilize its full capacity for skill development to suit its own requirements. The proposed amendment would also go a long way in removing skill obsolescence. But, apprentices should be allowed to be engaged in the production processes to provide them 'on the job' training, FICCI stated.

FICCI however supports enhancing the coverage of the proposed amendment in the Labour Laws (exemption from furnishing Returns and Maintaining Registers by certain establishments), Act, 1988 to establishments employing 50 workers from proposed 40 workers, to provide relief to the MSME sector.

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