

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO. \*80**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2018**

**MAINTENANCE OF DATA ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE UNORGANISED  
SECTOR**

**\*80. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI:**

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

- (a) whether Government has any accurate mechanism to maintain data on employment generation under the unorganised sector;**
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor and why a beginning should not be made at least now; and**
- (c) whether Government has any concrete plan to bring workmen of the unorganized sector under Employees's Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) and Employee's State Insurance (ESI) by initiating some suitable measures?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**  
**(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

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

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*80 DUE FOR REPLY ON 25.07.2018 BY SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI REGARDING “MAINTENANCE OF DATA ON EMPLOYMENT IN THE UNORGANISED SECTOR”.**

**(a) to (c): To ascertain employment and unemployment situation in the country, National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation conducts labour force surveys on employment and unemployment. The last such survey by NSSO was conducted during 2011-12. In addition, Labour Bureau, Ministry of Labour and Employment also conducts surveys on Employment-Unemployment and the last available result is for 2015-16.**

**Labour Bureau is also conducting survey for estimation of employment generation under Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojna (PMMY). PMMY survey is an enterprise survey to collect the information on generation of employment in different sectors broadly categorized as Manufacturing, Services, Allied agriculture, Trading and any other sectors which have been assisted under the PMMY.**

**With a view to measure changes in the labour market on more frequent basis, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has launched Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS). The PLFS aims to provide quarterly changes of various indicators of the labour market for urban areas and the annual estimates of different labour force indicators for both rural and urban areas, at State/UT and all India level.**

**Employment generation coupled with improving employability is the priority concern of the Government. The Government has taken various measures in this direction like encouraging private sector of economy, fast tracking various projects involving substantial investment and increasing public expenditure on schemes like Prime Minister’s Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Pt.Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) and Deendyal Antodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM). MUDRA scheme has been initiated by the Government to facilitate self-employment by providing loans for manufacturing, processing, trading, services and activities aligned to agriculture for promotion of self-employment.**

**Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana( PMRPY) has been initiated by the Ministry of Labour and Employment in the year 2016-17 for incentivizing employers by paying their entire contribution of 12% (or as admissible) towards the EPS and EPF for all sectors w.e.f. 01.04.2018 to all eligible new employees and is applicable for all sectors for the next 3 years. This scheme**

**has dual benefit, where, on the one hand, the employer is incentivized for increasing the employment base of workers in the establishment, and on the other hand, a large number of workers will find jobs in such establishments. A direct benefit is that these workers will have access to social security benefits of the organised sector.**

**The Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 is applicable to every establishment employing 20 or more persons which is either a factory engaged in any industry specified in Schedule-I of the Act or an establishment to which the Act has been made applicable by the Central Government by notification in the Official Gazette.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 100  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.07.2018**

**SERVICES OF ESIC AND EPFO UNDER PPP MODE**

**100. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS:**

**SHRI T. G. VENKATESH:**

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

**(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating on extending the services of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) and Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode to benefit up to 50 crores more people; and**

**(b) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a): No, Sir.**

**(b): Does not arise.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 103  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.07.2018**

**INVESTMENT OF EPF IN SHARES AND EQUITIES**

**103. DR. V. MAITREYAN:**

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

- (a) whether Government has invested Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) amount in various Public Limited companies and in shares and equities of various private limited companies as well as blue chip shares of some private companies;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the total amount invested and the details of top ten companies, company-wise;**
- (c) the steps taken by Government to protect the interests of EPF subscribers;**
- (d) whether Government has taken any efforts to bring in more employees in both organised and unorganised sectors under the ambit of EPF; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and Government's stand thereon?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a): Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) is investing in Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) based on Nifty 50, Sensex, Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) and Bharat 22 Indices. EPFO does not invest in shares and equities of individual companies.**

**(b): The total amount invested by EPFO in ETFs as on June, 2018 is Rs. 48,946 crore.**

**Contd..2/-**

**(c): The Central Board of Trustees (CBT), Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) in its 207<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 31.03.2015 decided to invest only in Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) in the category of equity and related investments.**

**(d) & (e): The Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 is applicable to every establishment employing 20 or more persons which is either a factory engaged in any industry specified in Schedule-I of the Act or an establishment to which the Act has been made applicable by the Central Government by notification in the Official Gazette.**

**An Employees' Enrolment Campaign was launched by EPFO during the period 01.01.2017 to 31.03.2017, which was further extended to 30.06.2017. During the Campaign, various incentives were offered to establishments to enroll such workers who remained un-enrolled for any reason between 01.04.2009 and 31.12.2016.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 116  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.07.2018  
MODIFICATION IN WITHDRAWAL PROCESS IN EPF**

**116. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM:**

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

- (a) whether Government has made any modification in the withdrawal process of Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) for the employees in the existing rules;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether Government is planning to further simplify the process of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) for the withdrawal, for the convenience of employees; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a) & (b): Paragraph 69(2) of Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952 enables a member to withdraw the full amount standing to his credit in the Fund on ceasing to be an employee in an establishment for a continuous period of two months immediately preceding the date on which he makes an application for withdrawal. The requirement of two months waiting period shall not, however, apply in cases of female members resigning from the services of the establishment for the purpose of getting married.**

**Further, review and modification of Schemes framed under the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 is an ongoing process based on the changing socio-economic scenario.**

**(c) & (d): The Central Board of Trustees (CBT), Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) in its 222<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 26.06.2018 has considered a proposal for insertion of paragraph 68HH in EPF Scheme, 1952 to enable a member who is no longer in employment for a continuous period of one month, to avail 75 per cent of the total fund standing to his credit.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. 151  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.08.2018**

**PENSION UNDER EPS-95 SCHEME**

**\*151. SHRI RIPUN BORA:**

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

- (a) whether pensioners under Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS-95) are getting less than Rs. 2500 per month pension inspite of present year-on-year average inflation rate of 5.21 per cent;**
- (b) the total number of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) pensioners an on 30 June, 2018 thereof;**
- (c) total accumulated fund with interest in EPFO account towards Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) contributions as on 30 June, 2018 thereon;**
- (d) status of Koshiyari Committee recommendations on enhancement of pension of EPS holders; and**
- (e) when will the pension of EPS-95 pensioners be reviewed and what will be minimum pension in effect thereto?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

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

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 151 TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.08.2018 BY SHRI RIPUN BORA REGARDING PENSION UNDER EPS-95 SCHEME.**

**(a) The pension under Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995 is calculated as per the provisions of EPS, 1995 which may be more or less than Rs. 2500/- per month depending upon the pensionable salary and pensionable service. Further, a minimum pension of Rs. 1000/- under EPS, 1995 has been prescribed with effect from 01.09.2014.**

**(b) The total number of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) pensioners as on 20.07.2018 are 62,42,807.**

**(c) The accumulated fund in EPFO towards Employees' Provident Fund [Un-exempted sector] as on 30.06.2018 is Rs. 6,11,354.42 crore (provisional Un-audited) in debt investments at face value. The accumulated fund in Employees' Provident Fund [Un-exempted sector] as on 30.06.2018 is Rs. 32,127.415 crore [provisional Un-audited] in Equity and related investments at cost value.**

**(d) Due to financial constraints, the recommendations on enhancement of pension for EPS pensioners by increasing Government's share of contribution under Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995 from 1.16 per cent of Member's wages to 8.33 per cent per month, has not been accepted. However, the Government started providing a minimum pension of Rs. 1000/- per month to the pensioners under EPS, 1995 from 01.09.2014.**

**(e) The Government has constituted a High-Empowered Monitoring Committee under the Chairpersonship of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment with Central Provident Fund Commissioner, EPFO and Employees' and Employers' representatives amongst others as members, for complete evaluation and review of the EPS, 1995 vide Order dated 04.01.2018. The Committee has been mandated to submit its recommendations to the Government by 03.10.2018.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 900  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2018**

**PRIVATE EPF TRUST**

**900. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:**

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

- (a) the State/UT-wise details of the Private Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) Trusts, and the details of any changes in the interest rates in last four years;**
- (b) the State/UT-wise details of the companies which are registered with Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) and the companies which are not registered and steps taken by Government to register them;**
- (c) the State/UT-wise details of the private EPF trusts which have lower interest rate than prescribed by EPFO; and**
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government to rectify the situation, if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a): As on 19.07.2018, 3805 establishments are marked as Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) exempted establishments under Section 17 of Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952. The State/UT-wise list is at Annex - A. As per EPF & MP Act, 1952 and Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952, the Trusts of EPF exempted establishments are statutorily bound to declare the rate of interest not less than as declared by Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO). The rate of interest declared by EPFO in the last four years, which is also applicable on the Trusts of exempted establishments, is as follows:**

**Contd..2/-**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Financial Year</b> | <b>Rate of interest declared (in %)</b> |
|----------------|-----------------------|---|
| <b>1.</b>      | <b>2014-15</b>        | <b>8.75</b>                             |
| <b>2.</b>      | <b>2015-16</b>        | <b>8.80</b>                             |
| <b>3.</b>      | <b>2016-17</b>        | <b>8.65</b>                             |
| <b>4.</b>      | <b>2017-18</b>        | <b>8.55</b>                             |

**(b): The EPF & MP Act, 1952 extends to whole of India, except the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The EPF & MP Act, 1952 is at present applicable:**

**(a) to every establishment, which is a factory engaged in any industry specified in Schedule -I to the EPF & MP Act, 1952 in which twenty or more persons are employed; and**

**(b) to any other establishment employing twenty or more persons or class of such establishment as notified by the Central Government in the Official Gazette.**

**The State/UT-wise details of average contributing establishments for 2017-18 are at Annex - B.**

**The registration under EPF & MP Act, 1952 has been made very easy and simple. The Online Registration Facility is available at Shram Suvidha Portal, Ministry of Labour & Employment. In this facility all details are obtained electronically from the employer and registration number is allotted immediately.**

**(c): The State/UT-wise details of the establishments which have declared lower rate of interest as compared to the rate declared by EPFO for the year 2016-17 is as follows:**

| <b>Sl. No.</b> | <b>Zone (Erstwhile)</b>                                      | <b>No. of establishments declaring rate of interest less than the statutory rate</b> |
|----------------|--|--|
| <b>1.</b>      | <b>WEST BENGAL, ANDAMAN &amp; NICOBAR ISLANDS AND SIKKIM</b> | <b>07</b>  |
| <b>2.</b>      | <b>TAMIL NADU</b>  | <b>01</b>  |
| <b>3.</b>      | <b>ANDHRA PRADESH</b>  | <b>01</b>  |
| <b>4.</b>      | <b>KERALA &amp; LAKSHADWEEP</b>                              | <b>01</b>  |
| <b>Total</b>   |  | <b>10</b>  |

**Further, 331 establishments had not reported the interest rate declared by the Trusts for the financial year 2016-17.**

**(d): Following actions have been taken against the above stated 10 establishments, which have declared rate of interest lower than the rate declared by EPFO :-**

- i. The exemption of 03 establishments have been cancelled and the establishments have moved the Hon'ble Court against the cancellation order and the matter is sub-judice.**
- ii. 01 establishment has surrendered the exemption and has started compliance as an un-exempted establishment.**
- iii. 02 establishments have made good the deficiency in the interest declared by Board of Trustees to bring it upto the statutory limit as per condition no. 7 of Appendix – 'A' to Para 27AA of the EPF Scheme, 1952.**
- iv. 03 establishments have moved to the Hon'ble Court against the assessment order passed by concerned field office of EPFO.**
- v. Show Cause Notice has been issued against 01 establishment.**

**With respect to 331 establishments, which had not reported the interest rate declared by their Trusts, the matter was examined with the respective offices of EPFO having jurisdiction and it has been reported by the offices that out of 331 establishments, 57 establishments have declared the rate of interest at par or more than that declared by EPFO for 2016-17.**

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ANNEX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 900 FOR 25.07.2018 RAISED BY SHRI KAPIL SIBAL REGARDING PRIVATE EPF TRUST.

| <b>TOTAL NUMBER OF EXEMPTED ESTABLISHMENTS</b> |                           |                                       |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>SL. NO.</b>                                 | <b>STATE/UT</b>           | <b>NO. OF EXEMPTED ESTABLISHMENTS</b> |
| 1  | ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS | 1                                     |
| 2  | ANDHRA PRADESH            | 48                                    |
| 3  | ASSAM                     | 27                                    |
| 4  | BIHAR                     | 150                                   |
| 5  | CHANDIGARH                | 40                                    |
| 6  | CHHATTISHGARH             | 118                                   |
| 7  | DELHI                     | 193                                   |
| 8  | GOA                       | 12                                    |
| 9  | GUJARAT                   | 185                                   |
| 10   | HARYANA                   | 153                                   |
| 11   | HIMACHAL PRADESH          | 90                                    |
| 12   | JHARKHAND                 | 149                                   |
| 13   | KARNATAKA                 | 188                                   |
| 14   | KERALA                    | 69                                    |
| 15   | MADHYA PRADESH            | 64                                    |
| 16   | MAHARASHTRA               | 718                                   |
| 17   | MEGHALAYA                 | 2                                     |
| 18   | ODISHA                    | 105                                   |
| 19   | PUDUCHERRY                | 1                                     |
| 20   | PUNJAB                    | 70                                    |
| 21   | RAJASTHAN                 | 236                                   |
| 22   | TAMIL NADU                | 217                                   |
| 23   | TELANGANA                 | 82                                    |
| 24   | UTTAR PRADESH             | 245                                   |
| 25   | UTTARAKHAND               | 44                                    |
| 26   | WEST BENGAL               | 598                                   |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                   |                           | <b>3805</b>                           |

**ANNEX REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 900 FOR 25.07.2018 RAISED BY SHRI KAPIL SIBAL REGARDING PRIVATE EPF TRUST.**

| Average contributory Establishments (2017-18) |                             |
|---|-----------------------------|
| STATE/UT                                      | Contributing Establishments |
| ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS                   | 453                         |
| ANDHRA PRADESH                                | 19405                       |
| ASSAM   | 7476                        |
| BIHAR   | 6132                        |
| CHANDIGARH                                    | 6430                        |
| CHHATTISGARH                                  | 8216                        |
| DELHI   | 31164                       |
| GOA   | 2971                        |
| GUJARAT                                       | 48123                       |
| HARYANA                                       | 25447                       |
| HIMACHAL PRADESH                              | 7156                        |
| JHARKHAND                                     | 9484                        |
| KARNATAKA                                     | 48997                       |
| KERALA  | 17296                       |
| MADHYA PRADESH                                | 20727                       |
| MAHARASHTRA                                   | 94081                       |
| MEGHALAYA                                     | 702                         |
| ODISHA  | 14030                       |
| PUDUCHERRY                                    | 1870                        |
| PUNJAB  | 18423                       |
| RAJASTHAN                                     | 21312                       |
| TAMIL NADU                                    | 62248                       |
| TELANGANA                                     | 25355                       |
| TRIPURA                                       | 746                         |
| UTTAR PRADESH                                 | 37352                       |
| UTTARAKHAND                                   | 6399                        |
| WEST BENGAL                                   | 37125                       |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>579120</b>               |

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 901**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON 25TH JULY, 2018**

**EMPLOYMENT DATA**

**901. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:**  
**SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:**

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

- (a) whether as per the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) data, Government had claimed that it has created around 70 lakh employment since September, 2017 to March, 2018;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether Government is aware that EPFO had recently revised the data regarding enrolment and now it has drastically declined during the said period resulting in lowest employment; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**  
**(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a) & (b): Since April, 2018 Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has been publishing the month-wise provisional net enrolment figures of its subscribers through its web portal [epfindia.gov.in](http://epfindia.gov.in). The data is being released from September, 2017 onwards. EPFO has not published any employment data as such but the net new enrolment of PF subscribers from September, 2017 to March, 2018 has been 34,40,297 as per the data published by EPFO on 20th June, 2018.**

**(c) & (d): While publishing data EPFO has always given the disclaimer that the data is provisional as updation of subscribers' records is a continuous process. The data regarding the new entrants for the recent months gets rationalised when the employers file the relevant exit data returns during the subsequent months.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 904  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2018  
AUGMENTING SOCIAL SECURITY COVER**

**904. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:**

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

- (a) whether Government is seriously considering to give social security cover with pension, medical and insurance cover for those who are outside the ambit of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) and the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC);**
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating by when it will be started in the country; and**
- (c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for increasing the social security scheme?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a) to (c):** In order to provide social security benefits to the workers in the unorganised sector, the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008 has been enacted to provide welfare schemes in matters relating to life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits, old age protection to the unorganised workers. Various Ministries/Departments of the Central Government are implementing such social security schemes like Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (Ministry of Rural Development); National Family Benefit Scheme (Ministry of Rural Development); health and maternity schemes (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare). The Central Government has also converged the social security scheme of Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana (AABY) with Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) to provide life and disability coverage to the unorganised workers depending upon their eligibility. The annual premium is shared on 50:50 basis by the Central Government and the State Governments. Government has recently approved the launch of Ayushman Bharat – National Health Protection Mission (AB-NHPM) during the year 2018-19 which will cover over 10 crore poor and vulnerable families (approx.. 50 crore beneficiaries) based on deprivation and occupational criteria.

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 905  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2018**

**PF WITHDRAWALS IN EPFO**

**905. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM:**

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

- (a) whether concerned with the high level of Provident Fund (PF) withdrawals, the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has proposed that its subscribers working in the private sector be allowed to withdraw 60 per cent of their total savings;**
- (b) whether Government's move is to retain the membership of PF subscribers and to address their social security needs at the time of unemployment; and**
- (c) whether legal experts assert that the move may be challenged in court as the money is a contribution made from their salary and they are fully entitled to it?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a) to (c): No, Sir. However, the Central Board of Trustees (CBT), Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) in its 222<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 26.06.2018 has considered a proposal for insertion of paragraph 68HH in Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952 to enable a member who is no longer in employment for a continuous period of one month, to avail 75 per cent of the total fund standing to his credit.**

**Further, paragraph 69(2) of EPF Scheme, 1952 enables a member to withdraw the full amount standing to his credit in the Fund on ceasing to be an employee in an establishment for a continuous period of two months immediately preceding the date on which he makes an application for withdrawal. The requirement of two months waiting period shall not, however, apply in cases of female members resigning from the services of the establishment for the purpose of getting married.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1683  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.08.2018**

**EPFO TO INFORM MEMBERS ABOUT CONTRIBUTIONS**

**1683. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) would inform its subscribers if contributions are not deposited by their employers with the EPFO for a given month in due time;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether it is also a fact that currently the EPFO only informs about the credit of contributions to subscribers account by SMS/e-mail to registered universal EPFO account number holders; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. SMS/E-mail to the members, if contributions are not deposited by their employers with Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) for a given month within due date, started from 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 for contribution due for wage month May paid in June, 2018. Total SMS/E-mail sent to the members upto 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2018 are 4,98,056.**

**(c) & (d): Unified Mobile Application for New-age Governance (UMANG) App, where various services of EPFO have been linked also, inter-alia, provides information regarding member's Provident Fund (PF) balance, claim status, Know Your Customer (KYC) status, etc.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1685  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.08.2018**

**UNCLAIMED AMOUNT UNDER EPFO**

**†1685. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:**

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

**(a) whether a huge amount belonging to the poor labourers of the country was lying unclaimed in the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) as on year 2014;**

**(b) if so, the details thereof;**

**(c) whether Government has taken necessary and appropriate steps to make available aforesaid unclaimed funds to the rightful beneficiaries during the last four years; and**

**(d) if so, the amount of funds received so far by the rightful beneficiaries and by when the remaining amount is scheduled to be received?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a) to (d): Unclaimed amount is not defined in Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952. However, as per para 72(6) of the Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme 1952, certain amounts are classified as Inoperative Accounts. All such Inoperative Accounts have, however, definite claimants.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1687  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST, 2018**

**CHARGING HEFTY FEES FOR FILLING VACANCIES**

**1687. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:  
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:  
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:**

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

- (a) whether hefty fees is being charged from the unemployed persons while inviting the applications for filling up Government vacancies in the country;**
- (b) whether such attitude is being adopted by private sector also thereby leading to various scams with the unemployed persons;**
- (c) whether Government would take any steps to ensure that hefty fees is not charged by the departments concerned while inviting applications for fresh recruitments from the unemployed and instead it is charged at the time of appointments; and**
- (d) the number of persons whose EPF/GPF subscriptions has commenced following the fresh appointments during the last five years?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a) to (c): UPSC charges Examination fee from Rs.100/- to Rs.200/- from General Category candidates for recruitment examinations. Fee in respect of examination conducted by UPSC was last revised in 2006. Further, SSC charges Examination Fee of Rs.100/- from the General Category candidates for recruitment examinations conducted by them. The fee for recruitment examination conducted by SSC was last revised in 2008. However, the candidates belonging to SC/ST/Women/PWD category are exempted from the payment of the examination fee.**

**Information in respect of fees charged by the private sector is not available.**

**(d): As per EPFO, the members registered under EPF Act, 1952 during the last 5 years is as under:**

| <b>Year</b>    | <b>Member (in crore)</b> |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| <b>2013-14</b> | <b>2.90</b>              |
| <b>2014-15</b> | <b>4.07</b>              |
| <b>2015-16</b> | <b>1.29</b>              |
| <b>2016-17</b> | <b>2.20</b>              |
| <b>2017-18</b> | <b>1.74</b>              |

**However, the GPF information is not maintained centrally by the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1693  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST, 2018**

**CREATION OF EMPLOYMENT UNDER PMRPY**

**1693. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that under the Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) Government has been able to create employment since its commencement, if so, the details of the beneficiaries, State/UT/sector/month-wise; and**
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Government is advertising that 5.5 lakh of beneficiaries would be added through PMRPY on a monthly basis, if so, the details of persons that have been provided jobs under this scheme?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a) to (b): Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana has been initiated by the Ministry of Labour and Employment in the year 2016-17 for incentivizing employers by paying the entire employer's contribution (12 % or as admissible) towards the EPS and EPF for all sectors w.e.f. 01.04.2018 to all eligible new employees and is applicable for all sectors for the next 3 years. The total number of beneficiaries under the scheme as on 25.07.2018 is 61.12 lakhs. Details of State-wise, Sector/ Industries-wise/Month- wise beneficiaries under the scheme are at Annexure-I, II and III respectively.**

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**ANNEXURE-I**

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (b) OF THE RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1693 FOR 01-08-2018**

**STATE-WISE BENEFICIARIES UNDER PMRPY**

| <b>STATE</b>            | <b>TOTAL NO. OF<br/>BENEFICIARIES<br/>(CUMULATIVE FIGURES)</b> |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>ANDHRA PRADESH</b>   | <b>488869*</b>   |
| <b>ASSAM</b>            | <b>5083</b>  |
| <b>BIHAR</b>            | <b>72070</b>   |
| <b>CHANDIGARH</b>       | <b>83073</b>   |
| <b>CHHATTISGARH</b>     | <b>59164</b>   |
| <b>DELHI</b>            | <b>371122</b>  |
| <b>GOA</b>              | <b>4934</b>  |
| <b>GUJARAT</b>          | <b>560853</b>  |
| <b>HARYANA</b>          | <b>512317</b>  |
| <b>HIMACHAL PRADESH</b> | <b>72740</b>   |
| <b>JHARKHAND</b>        | <b>19578</b>   |
| <b>KARNATAKA</b>        | <b>569433</b>  |
| <b>KERALA</b>           | <b>108813</b>  |
| <b>MADHYA PRADESH</b>   | <b>181825</b>  |
| <b>MAHARASHTRA</b>      | <b>1106087</b>   |
| <b>ODISHA</b>           | <b>66947</b>   |
| <b>PUNJAB</b>           | <b>106766</b>  |
| <b>RAJASTHAN</b>        | <b>233331</b>  |
| <b>TAMIL NADU</b>       | <b>710088</b>  |
| <b>UTTAR PRADESH</b>    | <b>441945</b>  |
| <b>UTTARAKHAND</b>      | <b>159097</b>  |
| <b>WEST BENGAL</b>      | <b>178392</b>  |
| <b>GRAND TOTAL</b>      | <b>6112527</b>   |

**\*includes Telangana also**

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (b) OF THE RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1693 FOR 01-08-2018****INDUSTRY-WISE BENEFICIARIES UNDER PMRPY**

| <b>INDUSTRY</b>  | <b>TOTAL NO. OF BENEFICIARIES (CUMULATIVE FIGURES)</b> |
|--|--|
| <b>EXPERT SERVICES</b>   | <b>2348851</b>   |
| <b>TEXTILES</b>  | <b>485253</b>  |
| <b>TRADING - COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS</b>   | <b>433983</b>  |
| <b>GARMENTS MAKING</b>   | <b>414055</b>  |
| <b>BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY</b>  | <b>362944</b>  |
| <b>ELEC, MECH OR GEN ENGG PRODUCTS</b>   | <b>328327</b>  |
| <b>ENGINEERS - ENGG. CONTRACTORS</b>   | <b>181308</b>  |
| <b>ESTABLISHMENTS ENGAGED IN CLEANING, SWEEPING SERVICES</b>                         | <b>103711</b>  |
| <b>BEEDI MAKING</b>  | <b>102612</b>  |
| <b>HOSPITALS</b>   | <b>97380</b>   |
| <b>FINANCING ESTABLISHMENT</b>   | <b>92294</b>   |
| <b>ESTABLISHMENT ENGAGED IN MANUFACTURE, MARKETING SERVICING, USAGE OF COMPUTERS</b> | <b>77016</b>   |
| <b>SCHOOL</b>  | <b>66099</b>   |
| <b>PLASTICS PRODUCTS</b>   | <b>65234</b>   |
| <b>UNIVERSITY</b>  | <b>59505</b>   |
| <b>HEAVY - FINE CHEMICALS</b>  | <b>56643</b>   |
| <b>OTHERS</b>  | <b>54662</b>   |
| <b>LEATHER PRODUCTS</b>  | <b>51189</b>   |
| <b>HOTEL</b>   | <b>47616</b>   |
| <b>DIAMOND CUTTING</b>   | <b>45722</b>   |
| <b>ROAD MOTOR TRANSPORT</b>  | <b>38989</b>   |
| <b>BANKS OTHER THAN NATIONALISED BANKS.</b>  | <b>38220</b>   |
| <b>AUTOMOBILE SERVICING</b>  | <b>38204</b>   |
| <b>RESTAURANT</b>  | <b>37784</b>   |
| <b>OTHERS</b>  | <b>484926</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>6112527</b>   |

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (b) OF THE RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1693 FOR 01-08-2018****MONTH-WISE TOTAL NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES UNDER PMRPY**

| <b>MONTH</b>                         | <b>TOTAL NO. OF<br/>BENEFICIARIES<br/>(CUMULATIVE FIGURES)</b> |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| <b>AUG-2016</b>                      | <b>0</b>   |
| <b>SEP-2016</b>                      | <b>0</b>   |
| <b>OCT-2016</b>                      | <b>7</b>   |
| <b>NOV-2016</b>                      | <b>918</b>   |
| <b>DEC-2016</b>                      | <b>1672</b>  |
| <b>JAN-2017</b>                      | <b>2422</b>  |
| <b>FEB-2017</b>                      | <b>13102</b>   |
| <b>MAR-2017</b>                      | <b>33031</b>   |
| <b>APR-2017</b>                      | <b>70812</b>   |
| <b>MAY-2017</b>                      | <b>117835</b>  |
| <b>JUN-2017</b>                      | <b>189268</b>  |
| <b>JUL-2017</b>                      | <b>288175</b>  |
| <b>AUG-2017</b>                      | <b>425636</b>  |
| <b>SEP-2017</b>                      | <b>634073</b>  |
| <b>OCT-2017</b>                      | <b>912506</b>  |
| <b>NOV-2017</b>                      | <b>1293535</b>   |
| <b>DEC-2017</b>                      | <b>1714852</b>   |
| <b>JAN-2018</b>                      | <b>2164602</b>   |
| <b>FEB-2018</b>                      | <b>2678428</b>   |
| <b>MAR-2018</b>                      | <b>3060487</b>   |
| <b>APR-2018</b>                      | <b>3941296</b>   |
| <b>MAY-2018</b>                      | <b>4624286</b>   |
| <b>JUN-2018</b>                      | <b>5371989</b>   |
| <b>JUL-2018<br/>(As on 25/07/18)</b> | <b>6112527</b>   |

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1701  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.08.2018**

**HIKE IN MINIMUM PENSION**

**1701. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM:**

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

- (a) whether after meeting recently to consider higher pensions and equity investments, the EPFO the Government is considering a hike in minimum pension from Rs. 1000 to Rs. 2000 a month, costing the Governments Rs. 3000 crore annually;
- (b) whether this hike is likely to benefit some 40 lakh subscribers who are getting less than Rs. 1500 per month, out of a total of 60 lakh pensioners under the EPF-95 Scheme; and
- (c) whether to fetch higher returns for five crore subscribers, EPFO has so far invested Rs. 42,000 crores in equities fetching over 17 per cent return?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

(a) & (b): Employees' Pension Scheme, 1995 is a self-funded Scheme with contributions @ 8.33 per cent of wages from employer and 1.16 per cent of wages by Central Government. All benefits under the Scheme are paid out of such accumulations. The fund is valued annually and additional reliefs paid if the position of the fund so permits. However, the Central Government has enhanced minimum pension to Rs. 1000/- per month by providing budgetary support keeping the widespread demand in view even though there is no provision in Scheme for such budgetary support. No decision has been taken to enhance the minimum pension to Rs. 2,000/- per month.

Further, as on 26.07.2018, the number of pensioners drawing pension up to Rs.1500/- per month is 33, 61,096.

(c): As on 30.06.2018, Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has invested Rs. 48,696 crore in Exchange Traded Funds earning a notional return of 14.5 per cent.

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1703  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.08.2018**

**INTEREST RATE FOR EPF**

**1703. SHRI ANAND SHARMA:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), in its recent notification has reduced the rate of interest to 8.55 per cent for Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) subscribers;**
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and**
- (c) the fall out of the decision on the EPF subscribers and the corpus of the fund?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a): The interest rate on Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) is determined by the Central Government in consultation with the Central Board. The Central Board of Trustees (CBT), Employees' Provident Fund (EPF), in its meeting held on 21.02.2018, had recommended 8.55 per cent interest rate to EPF members for the year 2017-18. Therefore, the Government has declared rate of interest for the year 2017-18 at 8.55 per cent, which is fairly higher than other comparable schemes viz. General Provident Fund (GPF)/Public Provident Fund (PPF).**

**(b): The rate of interest on EPF is determined on the basis of estimated earnings for the concerned financial year on the total investment corpus in the EPF. Further, in determining the rate of interest on EPF balances in each year, the Central Government satisfies itself that there is no overdrawal on the Interest Account as a result of the debit thereto of the interest credited to the accounts of members.**

**(c): The interest is credited to subscribers' account on monthly running basis @ 8.55 per cent for financial year 2017-18. The crediting of such interest to members' account does not have any effect on the corpus of the fund. However, the obligatory payment of interest along with the final settlement/advance reduces the corpus of the fund to that extent.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1705  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.08.2018**

**EMPLOYEES UNDER SOCIAL SECURITY FUND**

**1705. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that India added 472075 employees to the State run social security fund in February, 2018 after adding 604557 in January, 2018;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the data shows that there was a good increase in jobs every month in the last six months; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a) & (b): Since April, 2018, Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has been publishing the month-wise provisional net enrolment figures of its subscribers through its web portal [epfindia.gov.in](http://epfindia.gov.in). The data are released from the month of September, 2017 onwards.**

**On first such publication in the month of April, 2018, the data for the period September, 2017 to February, 2018 were placed on the EPFO Web Portal wherein provisional net enrolment figures of its subscribers for the month of January and February, 2018 had been shown as 6,04,557 and 4,72,075 respectively.**

**(c) & (d): The net new enrolment of Provident Fund (PF) subscribers from September, 2017 to February, 2018 (six months) had been 32,71,671 as per the said published data.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2489  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2018**

**ACHIEVEMENTS MADE UNDER SHRAMEV JAYATE PROGRAMME**

**†2489. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:**

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

- (a) whether a Shramev Jayate Programme was introduced by Central Government on 16 October, 2014 aiming to streamline skill development of large number of youths so that India may get an opportunity to fulfil the global requirement of skilled workers in forthcoming years;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the achievements made so far under Shramev Jayate Programme are in accordance with the target; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a) to (d): Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Shramev Jayate Karyakram was held on 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2014 wherein a series of initiatives were announced by Government of India for increasing productivity and employment, enabling the ease of compliance of procedures, labour welfare and social security along with industrial development. No physical and financial targets were fixed for achievement under the above programme. This programme was not primarily aimed at streamlining skill development to fulfil global requirement of skilled workers.**

**Contd..2/-**

**The initiatives under the Shramev Jayate Karyakram include (i) launch of Shram Suvidha Portal in central sphere for ease of compliance and self-certification (ii) Introduction of transparent labour inspection scheme in central sphere for random selection of units for inspection (iii) Portability through Universal Account Number (UAN) for Employees Provident Fund (iv) Effective implementation of revamped Rashtiya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) for the labour in unorganized sector (v) Apprentice Protsahan Yojana (vi) Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) of construction workers (vii) Training on modern construction techniques with certification by NCVT in consultation with construction companies (viii) Vocational Rehabilitation centres for Handicapped (ix) Showcasing and felicitating ITI Graduates as National Brand Ambassadors of Vocational Training (x) FLEXI MoUs with industries (xi) Skill Awardees. The progress so far made under some of above initiatives is as under:-**

**The Shram Suvidha Portal caters to four major organisations under the Ministry of Labour and Employment viz. (i) Office of Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), (ii) Directorate General of Mines Safety (iii) Employees' Provident Fund Organization and (iv) Employees' State Insurance Corporation. Portal provides online registration of allotment of Unique Labour Identification Number (LIN) to establishments. Labour Inspections in Central Sphere are conducted in a transparent and accountable manner. The inspections are generated randomly based on predetermined criteria. Mandatory, emergency and complaint based inspections are conducted through Shram Suvidha Portal specifically created for the purpose with mandatory uploading of inspection report within 72 hours. The progress of registration, inspection and filing of return are updated on real time basis in the Shram Suvidha Portal.**

**Since its launch, Universal Account Number (UAN) to the EPF subscribers for ensuring portability of PF benefits have been provided 13.61 lakhs subscribers working in 9.38 lakhs establishments as on 2.8.2018.**

**To give more specific attention to Skill Development, Government has formed new Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship in November 2014 and since then they have formulated various skill development initiatives for imparting employable skill to the growing workforce in the country. The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship under the objective of “Skill India” has launched flagship scheme “Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana” for implementation through National Skill Development Corporation, established Model and aspirational skill centres known as Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendra (PMKK) for imparting skill training in each district of the country, revamped National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme and enrolled workers from 34 informal sectors under the programme of recognition of prior learning.**

**A Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between India and Japan for Technical Intern Training Program (TITP) in October, 2017. Under the agreement the Candidates will be given on-the-job training in Japanese companies for a period up to 3 to 5 years. After completion of the Technical Intern Training Programme, the trainees are expected to return to their home countries (India).**

**Government has launched the India International Skill Centres (IISC) program on pilot basis. There are 14 operational centres at IISC catering to the sectors of Construction, Healthcare, Retail, Tourism and Hospitality, Security, Domestic worker, Automobile and Capital Goods. The centres are located in various locations spanning the states of Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Kerela, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Bihar and Gujarat.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2494  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2018**

**SELF CERTIFICATION RETURNS BY MSMEs UNDER COMPLIANCE TO  
LABOUR LAWS**

**2494. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that several Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) were permitted to self certify their returns under compliance to labour laws;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) how many MSMEs have furnished these self certifications during last year, State-wise;**
- (d) whether there are any complaints against the violations in this self certification and whether any action has been taken on erring enterprises; and**
- (e) the manner in which Government is ensuring the correctness of these returns and protect the rights of workers working in these enterprises?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a) & (b): Ministry of Labour & Employment has issued advisories to the States/UTs/Central Labour Enforcement Agencies for formulating a simplified inspection scheme taking into account the self-certification for regulating the inspection under various labour laws for Start-ups and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).**

**Contd..2/-**

**(c): Such data is not maintained centrally. However, Start-Ups have been advised to use the Shram Suvidha Portal for submitting Self-declaration. As on 06.08.2018, 48 Starts-UPs have submitted self-declaration so far on the Shram Suvidha Portal.**

**(d) & (e): The advisories to States/Union Territories/Central Labour Enforcement Agencies are not to exempt the Start-ups and MSMEs from the ambit of compliance of the these Labour Laws but to provide an administrative mechanism to regulate inspection of the Start-Ups and MSMEs, so that Start-ups and MSMEs are encouraged to be self-disciplined and adhere to the rule of law. These measures intend to avoid harassment of the entrepreneurs by restricting the discretion and arbitrariness. Punitive action shall, however, be taken whenever there is a violation of these labour laws. The enforcement of each labour Act is done as per the provisions of that Act, by taking into consideration the definitions and provisions under that Act.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2499  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2018**

**DOWNWARD REVISION OF JOBS DATA BY EPFO**

**2499. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:**

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

- (a) whether Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has further revised down the jobs data by 9.6 per cent for the period between September, 2017 and April, 2018 during the month of July, 2018 for second time after downward revision in June, 2018;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the lowest and highest job generated during the said period, month-wise;**
- (c) whether Government would initiate inquiry into the bogus entries in EPFO data for the said period and would fix responsibility in this regard;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a) & (b):** Since April, 2018, Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has been publishing the month-wise provisional net enrolment figures of its subscribers through its web portal [epfindia.gov.in](http://epfindia.gov.in). The data is being released from September, 2017 onwards. The net new enrolment of Provident Fund (PF) subscribers from September, 2017 to April, 2018 has been 37,31,251 as per the data published by EPFO on 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2018.

While publishing data EPFO has always given the disclaimer that the data is provisional as updation of subscribers' records is a continuous process. The data regarding the new entrants for the recent months gets rationalized when the employers file the relevant exit data returns during the subsequent months.

As per the data uploaded on 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2018, the lowest net enrolment is 2,96,410 in the month of October, 2017 and the highest is 6,76,147 in the month of April, 2018 during the period from September, 2017 to April, 2018. Month-wise data are at Annex.

**(c) to (e):** The EPFO data is based on the returns relating to subscribers filed by the employer of the registered establishments from time to time as per the provisions of the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 and the Schemes framed thereunder. The Scheme provides for continuous filing and, therefore, the data gets rationalized/ revised for every month based on filings. The revision in data is part of the process.

**Annex**

**Annex referred to in reply to parts (a) & (b) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2499 for 08.08.2018 raised by Shri Neeraj Shekhar regarding Downward revision of jobs data by EPFO.**

| Month           | No. of Net enrolment under Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) Scheme, 1952 |
|-----------------|---|
| September, 2017 | 529432  |
| October, 2017   | 296410  |
| November, 2017  | 545331  |
| December, 2017  | 375655  |
| January, 2018   | 498068  |
| February, 2018  | 442085  |
| March, 2018     | 368123  |
| April, 2018     | 676147  |
| May, 2018       | 743608  |

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2502  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2018**

**PROMOTING EPF IN PRIVATE SECTOR ORGANISATIONS**

**2502. SHRI P. L. PUNIA:**

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

- (a) the list of companies which are following the norms of the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) for the welfare of their employees in the country;**
- (b) what are the measures taken by Government to promote Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) in private sector organisations and how many companies have been found guilty of avoiding the norms in the country;**
- (c) whether Government has any plan to improve social security in private sector organisations; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**(a) to (d): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.**

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2505  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.08.2018**

**EMPLOYEES ENROLLED WITH EPFO AND ESIC**

**2505. SHRI RAJ BABBAR:**

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state the total net enrolment with the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) and Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) during the last three years and the current year, year-wise and State/UT-wise?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
(SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)**

**The State/UT-wise total number of Insured Persons (IPs) with the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) as on 31<sup>st</sup> March of 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018 (provisional) is at Annex-A.**

**The data regarding total net enrolment with the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.**

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**Annex A**

**Annex referred to in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2505 for 08.08.2018 raised by Shri Raj Babbar regarding Employees enrolled with EPFO and ESIC.**

| <b>S. No.</b> | <b>State/UT</b>                      | <b>No. of Insured Persons as on 31st March</b> |                 |                 |                           |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|--|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
|               |                                      | <b>2015</b>                                    | <b>2016</b>     | <b>2017</b>     | <b>2018 (Provisional)</b> |
| 1             | Andhra Pradesh                       | 553390   | 629810          | 1014140         | 1172295                   |
| 2             | Telangana                            | 1093000  | 1152270         | 1659190         | 1736641                   |
| 3             | Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland & Tripura | 127349   | 147500          | 201960          | 258741                    |
| 4             | Sikkim                               | 10871  | 11710           | 16260           | 20954                     |
| 5             | Bihar                                | 130730   | 143610          | 201950          | 237663                    |
| 6             | Chandigarh                           | 103300   | 109340          | 230160          | 230295                    |
| 7             | Chhattisgarh                         | 271670   | 271850          | 423990          | 558416                    |
| 8             | Delhi                                | 1184560  | 1280610         | 1946700         | 1876668                   |
| 9             | Goa                                  | 165660   | 170580          | 288120          | 242765                    |
| 10            | Gujarat                              | 967030   | 1030090         | 1473460         | 1578658                   |
| 11            | Haryana                              | 1567090  | 1677020         | 2970810         | 2944334                   |
| 12            | Himachal Pradesh                     | 228380   | 235340          | 286390          | 314724                    |
| 13            | Jammu & Kashmir                      | 88180  | 92960           | 244000          | 275780                    |
| 14            | Jharkhand                            | 245300   | 250630          | 319000          | 378245                    |
| 15            | Karnataka                            | 2226010  | 2385840         | 3328960         | 3496099                   |
| 16            | Kerala                               | 775000   | 772210          | 929160          | 1091285                   |
| 17            | Madhya Pradesh                       | 511630   | 546800          | 792130          | 949705                    |
| 18            | Maharashtra                          | 2351860  | 2400290         | 4358990         | 4594149                   |
| 19            | Odisha                               | 378270   | 399580          | 551170          | 676966                    |
| 20            | Puducherry                           | 99390  | 101260          | 116540          | 126585                    |
| 21            | Punjab                               | 803300   | 804430          | 1110650         | 1166445                   |
| 22            | Rajasthan                            | 744890   | 789800          | 1258450         | 1398531                   |
| 23            | Tamil Nadu                           | 2811560  | 2927030         | 3949400         | 4272917                   |
| 24            | Uttar Pradesh                        | 1305150  | 1320180         | 1888150         | 2089849                   |
| 25            | Uttarakhand                          | 375810   | 414530          | 606770          | 688655                    |
| 26            | West Bengal                          | 1225150  | 1296610         | 1796410         | 1953867                   |
|               | <b>Total</b>                         | <b>20344530</b>                                | <b>21361880</b> | <b>31962910</b> | <b>34331232</b>           |

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