

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 372
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2019**

EMPLOYMENT DATA OF EPFO

**†372. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that in the data of Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) submitted from September, 2017 to May, 2018, there has been reduction of 12.4 per cent in the data after the review;**
- (b) whether it indicates that employment data of Government is being manipulated to show enhanced number;**
- (c) the employment data of EPFO after May, 2018; and**
- (d) the year-wise employment data of EPFO during last five years and the number of unemployed population in the country at present?**

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. The data is being released from September, 2017 onwards. 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 of returns and, therefore, the data gets rationalized/ revised for every month based on filings. The revision in data is part of the process. While publishing data EPFO has always given the disclaimer that the data is provisional as updation of subscriber's records is a continuous process.

(c): The payroll data is being uploaded on EPFO website on 20th of every month for the period of September, 2017 onwards. The latest payroll report as uploaded on 20th January, 2019 includes data for the period September, 2017 to November, 2018. A copy of the said report is at Annexure 'A'.

(d): The EPFO is publishing its payroll data for the period September, 2017 onwards. The latest publication includes month-wise data for September, 2017 to November, 2018. The same is at Annexure-'A'.

Further, EPFO does not maintain the data on unemployment in the Country.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to Parts (c) & (d) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 372 for 06.02.2019 raised by Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad and Shrimati Chhaya Verma regarding "Employment data of EPFO".

NET PAYROLL DATA EPFO								
PROVISIONAL ESTIMATE OF NET PAYROLL IN AGE BUCKETS AS PER EPFO RECORDS (IN NUMBERS)								
Month/Age Band	Less than 18	18-21	22-25	26-28	29-35	More than 35	Total	Establishments remitting first ECR in the month
Sep-17	5925	151323	103919	20029	23831	12430	317457	5910
Oct-17	5310	119980	75397	11922	10039	97	222745	4851
Nov-17	7173	200560	142255	40716	54923	47983	493610	6238
Dec-17	6435	164913	100323	18230	13124	-23024	280001	5271
Jan-18	4955	150684	127247	41271	59082	52823	436062	5082
Feb-18	5124	131726	112193	33112	43793	30150	356098	5199
Mar-18	7547	128730	48467	-18251	-42193	-68469	55831	4344
Apr-18	10905	184586	157335	63788	94884	83976	595474	5017
May-18	10715	237576	139672	41163	50969	33323	513418	6326
June-18	9336	250873	179746	61781	85861	63592	651189	5421
July-18	8599	257089	208112	69574	100161	87657	731192	4871
Aug-18	6360	209740	170583	53448	71499	66001	577631	4650
Sep-18	6958	235061	203322	81773	105463	88981	721558	3715
Oct-18	5224	200580	193939	78590	101259	86845	666437	3540
Nov-18	6558	218346	203154	84076	114085	105864	732083	2220

Notes:

1. Data is provisional as updation of employees records is a continuous process and gets updated in subsequent month/s.
2. This is age-band wise data of new members registered under EPFO where the first non-zero contribution received during particular month.
3. For each age-wise band, the estimates are net of the members newly enrolled, exited and rejoined during the month as per records of the EPFO.
4. The estimates may include temporary employees whose contributions may not be continuous for the entire year.
5. Members' data above are linked to unique Aadhaar Identity.
6. EPFO manages social security funds of workers in the organised/semi organised sector in India
7. EPFO has more than 6 crore active members (with at least one month contribution during the year).
8. Establishments which remit their first ECR (Electronic Challan cum Return) in that particular month

Next Date of Release: February 20, 2019.

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**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 377
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2019**

INCREASING THE RETURN ON EPF

377. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to increase the return on Employees' Provident Fund (EPF);**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether Government has been able to provide higher returns to employees covered under the EPF scheme; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): In order, to get better returns, Central Board of Trustees (CBT), Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) has allowed investments in Equities and related investments since the financial year 2015-16. Initially, only 5 per cent of the incremental funds were invested in Equities and related investments, but gradually the exposure was raised to 10 per cent in financial year 2016-17 and 15 per cent in the financial year 2017-18. Accordingly, at present, Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) is investing about 15 per cent of incremental funds in Equities and related investments. At present, EPFO invests in Equities through subscribing to the Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs).

(c) & (d): The rates of interest declared for EPF have been better/higher than comparable schemes/funds viz. GPF, PPF etc. The comparative chart for rates of interest declared for GPF/PPF and EPF for the financial year 2017-18 is tabulated as below:-

Year	Quarter	GPF	PPF	EPF
2017-18	April – June, 2017	7.9%	7.9%	8.55%
	July – September, 2017	7.8%	7.8%	
	October-December, 2017	7.8%	7.8%	
	January-March, 2018	7.6%	7.6%	

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**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1167
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.02.2019**

EPFO SCHEMES COVERED UNDER PMRPY

1167. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM:

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

- (a) how many employees/workers have been brought into the fold of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) through various schemes of Government during the last four years, year-wise and scheme-wise;**
- (b) out of these how many workers have been covered under the Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) during this period; and**
- (c) the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) The Government of India has launched Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) Scheme w.e.f. 09.08.2016 which aims at incentivization of the employers to recruit unemployed persons and also to formalize the informal employees. The total number of employees benefited under the PMRPY Scheme, as on 05.02.2019, since inception is 10606428. The year-wise breakup is as under:-

Year	Employees benefitted
2016-17	33031
2017-18	3025084
2018-19 (as on 05.02. 2019)	7548313
Total	10606428

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**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1184
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.02.2019**

IMPLEMENTATION OF CADRE RESTRUCTURING IN EPFO

1184. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL:

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

- (a) the cadre-wise strength of officers and staff of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) prior to and after implementation of the recent cadre restructuring;**
- (b) the steps taken to recruit/promote the existing staff/officers to the vacant posts;**
- (c) whether some persons at the grade of Assistant Provident Fund Commissioners (APFCs) were given promotion as Regional Provident Fund Commissioners after relaxing their qualifying service;**
- (d) whether EPFO proposes to fill the vacant posts giving similar relaxations to other grades also; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

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**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1185
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.02.2019**

SHORTAGE OF STAFF IN EPFO

1185. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has around 250 offices across the country wherein most offices are facing acute shortage of staff which is causing undue hardships to the subscribers in getting timely disposal of their claims and grievances;**
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the present employees are overloaded with work assignments leading to impossible work output targets beyond their capacities;**
- (c) if so, whether Government has any plan to appoint more staff in EPFO for its smooth functioning; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
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(a) & (b): Consequent upon cadre restructuring of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), there are 135 Regional Offices and 117 Districts Offices of EPFO.

Computerization project and simplification of procedures such as online submission of claims, automated generation of accounts slips have been introduced in the EPFO in order to improve the performance of the staff and achieve the targets by easing out the workload.

(c) & (d): Appointment of the officers and staff in EPFO is an ongoing process and action is taken to fill up vacancies as per recruitment rules.

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**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1187
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.02.2019**

WORKING EMPLOYEES IN COMPANIES UNDER EPF

1187. DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

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

- (a) how many employees are working in various companies in the country and are part of the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) the State-wise details thereof;**
- (b) the initiative taken by Government to bring the companies not yet listed under the EPF scheme for the welfare of their employees; and**
- (c) the list of companies who are employing more than 20 people but not contributing to the EPF as on date and the action taken by Government against them?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
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(a): The State/UT-wise details of employees working in various companies in the country and which are covered under the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 are at Annexure.

(b): Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) makes concerted efforts on regular and continuous basis in line with the provisions of the Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 to get all coverable establishments (with 20 or more employees) registered under the Act and to ensure extension of social security benefits to all eligible employees.

As part of initiatives towards Ease of Doing Business, registration facility has been made much convenient and self-complying in nature by providing online registration through Shram Suvidha Portal whereby establishments are encouraged to proactively & voluntarily register themselves with EPFO to extend social security benefits to their employees.

Further, Government of India has launched PMRPY w.e.f 09.08.2016 which is an incentive scheme for employers to provide employment to new employees and in the process also to formalize informal employment. Under the Scheme, Government of India bears full employer share i.e. 12 per cent towards Employees' Pension Scheme and Employees' Provident Fund (EPS + EPF) payable by the employers under the EPF & MP Act, 1952 in respect of such employees who are otherwise eligible as per terms & conditions of the Scheme for a period of three years from their date of joining in any EPFO registered establishment on or after 01.04.2016 with Universal Account Number (UAN) generated thereafter and seeded with Aadhaar.

(c): As per provisions of the EPF & MP Act, 1952, it is the duty of the employer to get his establishment registered compulsorily with EPFO under Section 1(3) of the Act through online facility available at Shram Suvidha Portal when the employees' strength in the establishment reaches 20 or more.

However, there is also a provision under Section 1(4) of the Act, whereby an establishment which is having employees' strength less than 20 may also get registered voluntarily.

In respect of establishments with 20 or more employees but not registered with EPFO & not complying, regular surveys are made by the field officers who accordingly make efforts to register such establishments and to ensure compliance. Any such establishments which come to notice, the requisite action under EPF & MP Act, 1952 is taken to cover it.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to Part (a) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1187 for 13.02.2019 raised by Dr. Ameer Yajnik regarding "Working employees in companies under EPF".

EPF Contributing Members – STATE/UT-WISE (For the month of January, 2019)	
STATE/UT	Contributing Members
ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS	15806
ANDHRA PRADESH	1212229
ASSAM INCLUDING ARUNACHAL PRADESH, MANIPUR, MIZORAM & NAGALAND	322758
BIHAR	458394
CHANDIGARH	432759
CHHATTISGARH	496331
DELHI	2946395
GOA	199195
GUJARAT INCLUDING DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI AND DAMAN & DIU	3173484
HARYANA	2481190
HIMACHAL PRADESH	332197
JHARKHAND	544886
KARNATAKA	5660630
KERALA INCLUDING LAKSHDWEEP	1262697
MADHYA PRADESH	1182376
MAHARASHTRA	9840962
MEGHALAYA	44115
ODISHA	898162
PUDUCHERRY	125516
PUNJAB	778097
RAJASTHAN	1183926
TAMIL NADU	5275604
TELANGANA	2923344
TRIPURA	34431
UTTAR PRADESH	2315469
UTTARAKHAND	581758
WEST BENGAL INCLUDING SIKKIM	3026492
Total	47749203
