

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 114
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.11.2019**

SOCIAL SECURITY

†114. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to provide benefits of the Social Security Scheme to the agricultural labour; and**
(b) if so, the details of benefits likely to be extended to the agricultural labourers?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): In order to provide social security benefits to the workers in the unorganised sector, including agricultural labourers, Government enacted the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008. This Act stipulates formulation of suitable welfare schemes for unorganised workers on matters relating to: (i) life and disability cover, (ii) health and maternity benefits, (iii) old age protection and (iv) any other benefit as may be determined by the Central Government. Life and disability cover is provided through Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) to the unorganised workers depending upon their eligibility. The health and maternity benefits are addressed through Ayushman Bharat scheme. For old age protection in the form of monthly pension, Ministry of Labour & Employment has launched Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan Yojana which is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme for providing monthly minimum assured pension of Rs.3000/- on attaining the age of 60 years. The unorganised workers in the age group of 18-40 years whose monthly income is Rs.15000/- or less and not a member of EPFO/ESIC/NPS can join the scheme. Under the scheme, 50% monthly contribution is payable by the beneficiary and equal matching contribution is paid by the Central Government.

On the similar lines, Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maandhan Yojana, a scheme meant for old age protection and social security of Small and Marginal Farmers (SMF) has also been launched through Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare. All Small and Marginal Farmers having cultivable landholding up to 2 hectares falling in the age group of 18 to 40 years, whose names appear in the land records of States/UTs as on 01.08.2019 are eligible to get benefit under the Scheme.

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

LOK SABHA

**STARRED QUESTION NO. *117
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2019**

WORKFORCE IN UNORGANISED SECTOR

***117. SHRIMATI APARAJITA SARANGI:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has defined the unorganised sector and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the total percentage of Indian workforce in the unorganised sector, State/ UT-wise, particularly in Odisha;**
- (c) the reasons that are identified by the Government for a large presence of the unorganised sector; and**
- (d) whether it is viable at present to transform the unorganised sector into an organised sector, if so, the manner in which it can be done and the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?**

ANSWER

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

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

STATEMENT IS REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 117 FOR 25.11.2019 BY SHRIMATI APARAJITA SARANGI REGARDING WORKFORCE IN UNORGANISED SECTOR.

(a) As per Section 1(I) of the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008, the unorganised sector has been defined as "an enterprise owned by individual or self employed workers and engaged in the production or sale of goods or providing service of any kind whatsoever, and where the enterprise employs workers, the number of such workers is less than ten".

(b) The latest estimates of Worker in unorganised sector are not available from the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS). However, from the Annual Report (July 2017-June 2018), on PLFS, estimates are given in Tables 1, 2 and 3 of Annexure-I. The explanatory Note and broad structure are given at Annexure-II.

(c) & (d) Employment generation coupled with improving employability is the priority concern of the Government. Government has taken various steps for generating employment in the country like encouraging private sector of economy, fast tracking various projects involving substantial investment and increasing public expenditure in various schemes.

Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) has been launched by the Ministry of Labour and Employment for incentivizing employers for promoting employment generation. Under this Scheme, Government is paying entire employer's contribution (12% or as admissible) towards Employees' Provident Fund and Employees' Pension Scheme for all eligible new employees for all sectors for 3 years. This Scheme has a 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, these workers will have access to social security benefits of the organised sector.

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The Scheme aims to cover a large number of informal workers to the formal workforce for availing the Social Security Benefits.

In order to provide social security benefits to the workers in the unorganised sector, including agricultural labourers, Government enacted the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008. This Act stipulates formulation of suitable welfare schemes for unorganised workers on matters relating to: (i) life and disability cover, (ii) health and maternity benefits, (iii) old age protection and (iv) any other benefit as may be determined by the Central Government. Life and disability cover is provided through Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) to the unorganised workers depending upon their eligibility. The health and maternity benefits are addressed through Ayushman Bharat scheme. For old age protection in the form of monthly pension, Ministry of Labour & Employment has launched Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan Yojana which is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme for providing monthly minimum assured pension of Rs.3000/- on attaining the age of 60 years. The unorganised workers in the age group of 18-40 years whose monthly income is Rs.15000/- or less and not a member of EPFO/ESIC/NPS can join the scheme. Under the scheme, 50% monthly contribution is payable by the beneficiary and equal matching contribution is paid by the Central Government.

Table 1: Worker Population Ratio (WPR) (in per cent) according to usual status (primary sector + secondary sector) (ps + ss) for each State/UT during 2017-18.

State/UT	WPR (in per cent)
Andhra Pradesh	45.0
Arunachal Pradesh	30.7
Assam	32.9
Bihar	23.6
Chhattisgarh	45.7
Delhi	32.8
Goa	34.7
Gujarat	36.2
Haryana	30.5
Himachal Pradesh	46.4
Jammu & Kashmir	38.6
Jharkhand	28.8
Karnataka	38.1
Kerala	32.4
Madhya Pradesh	40.0
Maharashtra	39.2
Manipur	32.1
Meghalaya	41.5
Mizoram	36.0
Nagaland	25.9
Odisha	33.8
Punjab	33.8
Rajasthan	34.2
Sikkim	47.0
Tamil Nadu	40.5
Telangana	39.3
Tripura	33.8
Uttarakhand	30.7
Uttar Pradesh	28.7
West Bengal	37.3
A & N Islands	37.4
Chandigarh	35.6
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	45.8
Daman & Diu	50.9
Lakshadweep	26.0
Puducherry	30.1
all-India	34.7
<i>Source: Annual Report, PLFS, 2017-18</i>	

Table (2): Percentage distribution of usually working persons (ps+ss) by industry of work for each State/ UT during 2017-18

State/UT	industry sections of NIC-2008																					
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	all
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)	(22)	(23)
Andhra Pradesh	49.78	0.44	9.73	0.32	0.20	10.02	8.25	5.96	2.63	0.51	0.89	0.24	0.42	0.56	1.25	3.11	1.41	0.13	2.74	1.41	0.00	100.00
Arunachal Pradesh	50.08	0.00	1.53	0.26	0.63	3.93	15.52	6.16	0.72	0.29	0.38	0.00	0.30	0.21	7.31	9.83	0.74	0.10	0.64	1.35	0.00	100.00
Assam	45.47	0.34	6.65	0.13	0.03	9.94	14.11	5.33	0.93	0.17	0.42	0.07	0.40	1.93	2.08	6.22	1.48	0.09	1.49	2.74	0.00	100.00
Bihar	45.10	0.07	8.93	0.06	0.03	16.30	11.83	3.59	1.85	0.54	0.90	0.18	0.86	1.17	0.58	4.07	0.75	0.56	1.96	0.67	0.00	100.00
Chhattisgarh	67.50	0.50	4.40	0.86	0.22	9.31	6.20	1.91	1.16	0.18	0.40	0.06	0.19	0.26	1.45	3.05	1.01	0.22	0.90	0.22	0.00	100.00
Delhi	1.21	0.24	23.69	0.60	0.77	7.31	19.83	9.78	5.43	2.76	2.05	1.04	1.84	4.88	3.40	3.34	2.51	0.19	5.61	3.49	0.00	100.00
Goa	8.47	0.98	18.03	1.34	0.84	8.89	12.70	8.12	8.10	0.36	3.33	1.02	0.71	0.65	10.01	7.11	2.10	0.18	2.27	4.79	0.00	100.00
Gujarat	42.43	0.35	20.04	0.39	0.39	6.16	10.84	5.91	1.33	0.96	1.42	0.11	0.90	0.89	1.17	2.40	1.30	0.14	1.92	0.94	0.01	100.00
Haryana	27.41	0.17	19.50	0.72	0.52	12.93	11.65	8.08	0.92	1.47	1.46	0.62	1.80	1.30	1.90	4.55	1.52	0.07	2.73	0.68	0.00	100.00
Himachal Pradesh	55.61	0.02	6.18	0.70	0.47	14.74	4.53	4.20	1.64	0.15	0.48	0.02	0.46	1.56	2.17	4.58	0.82	0.12	1.36	0.17	0.00	100.00
Jammu & Kashmir	40.74	0.15	7.41	0.44	1.28	16.54	9.51	5.41	1.05	0.38	0.73	0.07	0.67	0.71	6.26	5.33	1.77	0.26	1.08	0.21	0.00	100.00
Jharkhand	46.75	1.48	8.69	0.22	0.23	18.54	7.92	4.20	1.61	0.17	0.55	0.20	0.44	0.97	1.48	3.58	0.81	0.04	1.65	0.46	0.00	100.00
Karnataka	45.72	0.31	12.29	0.28	0.23	7.92	8.91	6.24	2.91	2.21	1.24	0.44	0.79	1.02	1.76	3.87	1.31	0.17	1.64	0.72	0.00	100.00
Kerala	19.85	0.26	11.31	0.40	0.25	19.11	14.02	9.21	2.74	1.47	2.97	0.22	1.32	1.68	2.11	4.96	3.46	0.60	2.70	1.38	0.00	100.00
Madhya Pradesh	60.59	0.51	6.10	0.37	0.19	11.45	6.98	2.53	0.89	0.31	0.87	0.08	0.47	0.71	1.49	3.54	0.83	0.09	1.31	0.68	0.00	100.00
Maharashtra	47.79	0.13	11.74	0.26	0.16	5.75	9.35	5.15	1.69	1.66	1.80	0.15	1.48	1.48	2.04	3.83	1.35	0.41	2.24	1.52	0.03	100.00
Manipur	36.41	0.15	12.06	0.03	0.09	7.10	11.76	5.35	1.05	0.43	0.49	0.00	0.92	5.23	5.76	8.36	2.50	0.12	1.69	0.50	0.00	100.00
Meghalaya	56.27	0.70	1.77	0.15	0.00	10.79	7.26	3.83	2.11	0.26	0.21	0.02	0.20	1.03	3.40	6.09	2.68	0.37	1.08	1.78	0.00	100.00
Mizoram	43.97	1.01	4.19	0.22	0.20	7.78	11.72	3.78	0.77	0.27	0.09	0.03	0.42	4.28	8.21	9.12	1.85	0.00	0.98	1.13	0.00	100.00

Nagaland	36.79	0.06	5.68	0.29	2.01	0.27	10.72	5.43	0.62	0.42	0.12	0.00	1.27	12.76	4.80	9.74	1.66	0.15	7.12	0.07	0.00	100.00
Odisha	48.76	1.17	7.42	0.33	0.23	17.29	8.54	4.42	1.18	0.39	0.53	0.12	0.54	0.88	1.18	3.67	0.75	0.12	1.99	0.49	0.00	100.00
Punjab	26.04	0.12	18.88	0.51	0.27	13.32	15.19	4.63	1.57	0.77	1.62	0.18	0.76	1.08	2.79	5.87	1.28	0.73	2.89	1.51	0.00	100.00
Rajasthan	49.57	1.72	9.06	0.51	0.42	14.35	8.28	3.47	1.17	0.29	0.71	0.33	0.62	1.05	1.75	3.41	0.73	0.30	1.86	0.41	0.00	100.00
Sikkim	41.48	0.22	6.91	1.07	0.54	6.75	10.68	4.75	5.12	0.24	0.80	0.33	0.85	0.92	6.84	6.39	3.80	0.77	1.55	0.00	0.00	100.00
Tamil Nadu	27.74	0.37	19.45	0.52	0.35	14.23	10.92	6.12	2.96	2.59	1.53	0.33	1.03	1.87	1.29	3.68	1.39	0.33	1.88	1.42	0.00	100.00
Telangana	43.43	0.58	12.29	0.58	0.13	9.00	8.80	5.58	1.27	3.13	1.56	0.31	1.24	1.16	1.59	3.22	1.37	0.18	2.06	2.51	0.00	100.00
Tripura	29.05	0.16	6.96	0.07	0.05	13.99	17.11	7.45	0.86	0.16	0.36	0.00	1.02	2.38	6.11	6.28	1.07	0.07	2.33	4.51	0.00	100.00
Uttarakhand	42.53	0.11	9.40	0.48	0.14	9.86	11.33	5.48	2.54	0.35	1.04	0.36	0.73	2.27	2.20	7.50	1.59	0.33	1.45	0.30	0.00	100.00
Uttar Pradesh	48.75	0.08	11.38	0.19	0.25	13.49	10.85	3.70	1.83	0.42	0.48	0.16	0.66	0.71	1.09	3.15	0.82	0.27	1.47	0.24	0.00	100.00
West Bengal	36.56	0.36	17.80	0.15	0.15	11.55	11.11	5.70	2.28	0.66	0.68	0.14	0.73	1.46	1.17	4.06	1.10	0.44	1.75	2.15	0.00	100.00
A & N Islands	15.47	0.25	6.13	1.55	0.23	15.98	9.37	8.68	3.79	1.00	0.66	0.00	1.19	1.97	21.23	3.52	6.35	0.08	0.41	2.13	0.00	100.00
Chandigarh	0.46	0.00	15.15	2.74	0.14	5.19	16.84	5.48	6.05	1.82	2.94	0.49	3.95	3.32	14.86	5.66	4.76	0.56	3.14	6.47	0.00	100.00
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	19.82	0.00	57.36	1.50	0.00	1.83	3.91	4.57	1.83	0.75	0.11	0.00	0.45	0.96	1.24	4.01	1.26	0.12	0.08	0.21	0.00	100.00
Daman & Diu	2.51	0.00	61.30	0.57	0.00	2.84	11.54	1.58	2.78	0.01	1.87	0.00	0.38	1.85	4.66	3.79	0.76	0.00	0.86	2.70	0.00	100.00
Lakshadweep	25.67	0.00	1.33	1.45	0.00	13.33	4.69	8.82	6.40	3.22	0.90	0.00	3.41	2.01	9.06	11.66	4.52	1.15	2.40	0.00	0.00	100.00
Puducherry	11.57	0.00	17.42	1.25	0.39	13.95	14.07	8.11	2.12	3.94	0.92	0.06	2.02	3.29	3.12	7.39	3.99	0.62	5.26	0.53	0.00	100.00
all-India	44.14	0.41	12.13	0.34	0.25	11.67	10.09	4.93	1.87	0.99	1.05	0.21	0.83	1.19	1.62	3.78	1.20	0.28	1.92	1.08	0.00	100.00

Source: Annual Report, PLFS, 2017-18

Table 3: Percentage of workers in usually status (ps+ss) in informal sector among the workers in usual status (ps+ ss) in (A)griculture sector (E)xcluding (G)rowing of (C)rops, market gardening horticulture and growing of crops combined with farming of animals (AGEGC) and Non-agriculture sector for each State/ UT during 2017-18

State/ UT	Percentage of workers in usually status (ps+ss) in informal sector
Andhra Pradesh	78.3
Arunachal Pradesh	48.2
Assam	61.9
Bihar	63.4
Chhattisgarh	74.6
Delhi	60.2
Goa	43.2
Gujarat	67.1
Haryana	67.0
Himachal Pradesh	48.3
Jammu & Kashmir	66.8
Jharkhand	66.5
Karnataka	65.5
Kerala	67.3
Madhya Pradesh	64.8
Maharashtra	56.8
Manipur	50.8
Meghalaya	46.9
Mizoram	44.2
Nagaland	20.1
Odisha	66.9
Punjab	74.0
Rajasthan	73.7
Sikkim	53.1
Tamil Nadu	60.0
Telangana	59.9
Tripura	67.9
Uttarakhand	54.3
Uttar Pradesh	85.4
West Bengal	76.8
A & N Islands	53.3
Chandigarh	56.7
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	31.7
Daman & Diu	25.9
Lakshadweep	39.5
Puducherry	47.8
all-India	68.4

Source: Annual Report, PLFS, 2017-18

Explanatory Note:

1. **Definition of worker (employed persons):** Persons who, during the reference period, were engaged in any economic activity or who, despite their attachment to economic activity, temporarily abstained from work for reasons of illness, injury or other physical disability, bad weather, festivals, social or religious functions or other contingencies constituted *workers*.
2. **Definition of usual status worker (ps+ss):** The workers in the usual status (ps+ss) are obtained by considering the usual principal status (ps) and the subsidiary status (ss) together. The workers in the usual status (ps+ss) include (a) the persons who worked for a relatively long part of the 365 days preceding the date of survey and (b) the persons from among the remaining population who had worked at least for 30 days during the reference period of 365 days preceding the date of survey.

$$\text{Worker population ratio (WPR)} = \frac{\text{no. of employed persons}}{\text{total population}} * 100$$

3. **Proprietary Enterprise:** When an individual is the sole owner of an enterprise it is a proprietary enterprise. Own account production of fixed assets for own use, when produced by a single member, is classified as proprietary enterprise.
4. **Partnership Enterprise:** Partnership is defined as the 'relation between persons who have agreed to share the profits of a business carried on by all or any one of them acting for all'. There may be two or more owners, belonging to the same or different households, on a partnership basis, with or without formal registration (where there is a tacit understanding about the distribution of profit among the so-called partners). Own account production of fixed assets, when produced by two or more members belonging to the same or different households will be classified as partnership enterprises. Thus, own account production of fixed assets by a group of households for community use is classified as partnership enterprise.
5. **Informal Sector:** Proprietary and partnership enterprises are termed as informal sector.
6. **BROAD STRUCTURE of NIC -2008**

Primary Sector (Section A)

Group 014: Animal production
 Group 016: Support activities to agriculture and post-harvest crop activities
 Group 017: Hunting, trapping and related service activities
 Division 02: Forestry and logging
 Division 03: Fishing and aquaculture
 Section A: Agriculture, forestry and fishing

Secondary Sector (Section B to Section F)

Section B: Mining and quarrying
 Section C: Manufacturing
 Section D: Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply
 Section E: Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities
 Section F: Construction

Tertiary Sector (Section G to Section U)

Section G: Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles
 Section H: Transportation and storage
 Section I: Accommodation and Food service activities
 Section J: Information and communication
 Section K: Financial and insurance activities
 Section L: Real estate activities
 Section M: Professional, scientific and technical activities
 Section N: Administrative and support service activities
 Section O: Public administration and defence; compulsory social security
 Section P: Education
 Section Q: Human health and social work activities
 Section R: Arts, entertainment and recreation
 Section S: Other service activities
 Section T: Activities of households as employers; undifferentiated goods and services producing activities of households for own use
 Section U: Activities of extraterritorial organizations and bodies

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 124
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.11.2019**

**REGISTRATION UNDER PRADHAN MANTRI SHRAM YOGI MAAN-DHAN
(PM-SYM) YOJANA**

†124. DR. RAM SHANKAR KATHERIA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken registration under Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan Yojana and if so, the number of people who have been registered so far under the scheme;**
- (b) if so, the Union Territory-wise/ State-wise number of registration done;**
- (c) the details of steps taken by the Government to promote this scheme further; and**
- (d) whether any age-limit has been fixed to deposit the monthly instalment under this scheme and if so, the details of amount of monthly instalment deposited by the Government in this scheme along with the mode of deposition?**

ANSWER

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

- (a): The total enrolments made under Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM), as on 14-11-2019 are 32,98,424.**
- (b): The State-wise /Union Territory-wise number of enrolments made under the Scheme, are given at Annexure-A.**

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(c): The enrolment is being done through the network of Common Service Centres under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. Facility has been made for online enrolment. Monthly subscription is being deducted through auto-debit facility. All State/UT Governments were requesting for popularizing and bringing more awareness about the Scheme. Video Conference was held at various levels with State/UT Governments, for taking initiatives.

(d): The unorganised workers in the age group of 18-40 years whose monthly income is Rs. 15000/- or less and not a member of EPFO/ESIC/NPS can join the scheme. Under the scheme, 50% monthly contribution is payable by the beneficiary and equal matching contribution is paid by the Central Government. Life Insurance Corporation of India is the Pension Fund Manager for the Scheme. Central Government releases its share of monthly contribution to Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) enabling LIC to deposit the monthly contribution in to the Pension Fund, from time to time. Since the launch of the Scheme in February 2019, a total amount of Rs.146.49 crores has been released to LIC towards Central share of contribution.

ANNEXURE – A

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UN-STARRED QUESTION NO. 124 FOR 18.11.2019 BY DR. RAM SHANKAR KATHERIA REGARDING REGISTRATION UNDER PRADHAN MANTRI SHRAM YOGI MAAN-DHAN (PM-SYM) YOJANA.

Union Territory-wise/ State-wise Enrolment		
Sl No.	Name of State / UT	No. of enrolment as on 14.11.2019
1	Andhra Pradesh	52446
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1445
3	Assam	12793
4	Bihar	164086
5	Chhattisgarh	113122
6	Goa	366
7	Gujarat	360111
8	Haryana	615572
9	Himachal Pradesh	33029
10	Jammu and Kashmir/ladakh	64474
11	Jharkhand	125751
12	Karnataka	60516
13	Kerala	9009
14	Madhya Pradesh	112945
15	Maharashtra	571941
16	Manipur	2903
17	Meghalaya	1670
18	Mizoram	547
19	Nagaland	2336
20	Odisha	143672
21	Punjab	30706
22	Rajasthan	93026
23	Sikkim	97
24	Tamil Nadu	53334
25	Telangana	25416
26	Tripura	15553
27	Uttar Pradesh	536490
28	Uttarakhand	25944
29	West Bengal	57136
30	Andaman and Nicobar	1340
31	Chandigarh	1499
32	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	675
33	Daman and Diu	420
34	Lakshadweep	21
35	NCT Delhi	6917
36	Puducherry	1116
Total		3298424

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.190
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH NOVEMBER, 2019**

SOCIAL SECURITY

**190. DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
DR. AMOL RAMSING KOLHE:
SHRI SUNIL DATTATRAY TATKARE:
SHRI KULDEEP RAI SHARMA:
SHRI A.K.P. CHINRAJ:**

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

- (a) the details of the sectors where unemployment is more prevalent in the country;**
- (b) whether Government has assessed the number of unemployed among economically weaker section/Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Caste (SC/ST/OBC) physically handicapped/ woman in urban/rural area of India;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard;**
- (d) whether the Government contemplates to formulate any policy to give unemployment allowance to such educated unemployed youths along with provision for providing unemployment oriented skill development training and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (e) whether the Government has provided/proposes to provide social security to such unemployed persons and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and**
- (f) the number of unemployed youth provided employment through the said schemes during the last three years and the current year, year and State/UT-wise?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The quinquennial labour force surveys on employment and unemployment were conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. The last such survey was conducted during 2011-12. Now, NSSO has switched to the annual Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) which was conducted during 2017-18. The estimated unemployment rate on usual status (principal status + subsidiary status) basis for persons of all ages in the country for different categories in rural and urban area is given below.

Unemployment Rate (in %)					
Area	Gender	Scheduled Tribes	Scheduled Castes	Other Backward Class	All
Rural	Male	4.9	6.4	5.7	5.8
	Female	2.2	3.2	3.8	3.8
	Person	4.0	5.6	5.3	5.3
Urban	Male	7.0	8.2	6.9	7.1
	Female	7.6	10.5	10.9	10.8
	Person	7.1	8.8	7.8	7.8
Rural + Urban	Male	5.1	6.8	6.1	6.2
	Female	2.6	4.9	5.7	5.7
	Person	4.3	6.3	6.0	6.1

Separate data for differently abled unemployed is not available. However, as per the information received from the States/UTs, the number of differently abled job seekers, all of whom may not necessarily be unemployed, registered on live register of employment exchanges in the country to the extent available were 6.85 lakh during 2016 (provisional).

(d) to (f): Government of India is not providing unemployment allowance to the unemployed persons. Further, under Skill India Mission, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) imparts employable skills to the youth through long term and short term training. The Ministry is implementing its flagship scheme Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) to provide employable skills to the youth of the nation. Ministries/ Departments/ States also run skill development schemes across various sectors to improve the employability of youth and facilitate placements. Schemes such as the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) wherein Government reimburses 25 percent of the stipend payable to apprentices enhances employability of the youth to access employment.

Government has launched three social security schemes pertaining to the Insurance and Pension sectors, namely Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and the Atal Pension Yojana (APY) to move towards creating a universal social security system. The schemes provide essential and affordable social protection to all citizens in a convenient manner linked to auto-debit facility from bank accounts and is applicable to all. As on 01-10-2019, gross number of enrolment by banks, subject to verification of eligibility criteria, is 16.56 crore in PMSBY and 6.29 crore in PMJJBY. As far as APY is concerned, a total number of 1.86 crore people have enrolled as on 30-09-2019 under this scheme.

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1157
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2019**

HIKE IN PENSION

**†1157. SHRI SHA.BRA.DR.JAI SIDDESHWAR SHIVACHRYA
MAHASWAMIJI:**

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

- (a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government with regard to hike in pension of employees from organised and unorganised sectors in Solapur;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) if not, whether it is necessary for the Government to increase the pension of employees keeping in view its meagre amount; and**
- (d) whether the Ministry proposes to consider any proposal in this regard?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): Government of India in February, 2019 launched Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM), a voluntary and contributory pension Scheme, for the benefit of unorganised workers, as per eligibility. The scheme assures minimum monthly pension of Rs. 3000 to the beneficiaries after attaining the age of 60 years. All unorganised workers, in the age group of 18-40 years, whose monthly income is upto Rs. 15,000 and who are not members of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation or Employees' State Insurance Corporation or National Pension System (Government contributed) and are also not income tax payers, are eligible to enroll under the Scheme. The

Contd...2/-

subscriber is required to pay the prescribed monthly contribution amount and the Central Government provides the equal matching contribution. This Scheme is implemented through Life Insurance Corporation of India. Enrollment under the Scheme can be done through any of the Common Service Centres across the country.

Further, vide notification No. G.S.R. 593 (E) dated 19.08.2014, a minimum pension of Rs. 1000 per month has been fixed with effect from 01.09.2014 for the pensioners under Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995 framed under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952, applicable to establishments which belong to industries and classes of establishments listed in Schedule-I and where number of employees is 20 or more. No decision has been taken at present to further enhance the minimum pension under EPS, 1995.

Further, Atal Pension Yojana (APY) was launched in May, 2015, by the Government of India, and Indian Citizens between the age group of 18 to 40 years are eligible to join APY through their savings bank account or post office savings bank account. Depending upon the pension plan selected, each subscriber under APY shall receive a guaranteed minimum pension of Rs. 1000/- per month or Rs. 2000/- per month or Rs. 3000/- per month or Rs. 4000/- per month or Rs. 5000/- per month, after the age of 60 years until his/her death.

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1197
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2019**

DISPOSAL OF CASES RELATING TO PROVIDENT FUND

†1197. SHRI JAI PRAKASH:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to make any effective law for timely disposal of cases relating to provident fund on the lines of Income Tax Department;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. The Proposal is at pre-legislative stage.

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1284
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2019**

CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

1284. SHRI A. NARAYANA SWAMY:

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

- (a) the details of number of construction workers issued I.D. cards in various States in 2017 particularly in Karnataka;**
- (b) the total amount collected by the Government of Karnataka under the Construction Worker's Welfare Cess and spent till date; and**
- (c) the Social Security Schemes being implemented for construction workers in Karnataka?**

ANSWER

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

(a): The Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 mandates the State BOCW Welfare Boards to register every BOC worker having completed 18 years of age, but not completed 60 years, and engaged in BOC work for not less than 90 days in preceding 12 months as a beneficiary and give every beneficiary an Identity Card. The number of construction workers issued I.D. cards by the State Boards is not centrally maintained. However, cumulative number of BOC workers registered as beneficiaries by the State Boards is furnished at Annexure-I.

(b): The Karnataka Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board informed that it has collected BOCW Welfare Cess to the tune of Rs. 6252.84 crore till date and spent an amount of Rs. 734.92 crore/-.

(c): Karnataka Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board is implementing 15 welfare and social security benefits for registered BOC workers and their dependents as furnished at Annexure-II.

Annexure – I referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1284, Part (a) for 25.11.2019 by Shri A . Narayana Swamy regarding Construction workers.

Sl. No.	Name of the States/UTs.	No. of workers registered with the Board
1	Andhra Pradesh	18,15,889
2	Arunachal Pradesh	30,841
3	Assam	2,48,871
4	Bihar	12,39,470
5	Chhattisgarh	19,39,898
6	Goa	5,117
7	Gujarat	6,54,550
8	Haryana	8,56,980
9	Himachal Pradesh	1,74,968
10	J&K	3,42,295
11	Jharkhand	7,96,146
12	Karnataka	15,42,432
13	Kerala	15,26,861
14	Madhya Pradesh	30,97,889
15	Maharashtra	16,10,619
16	Manipur	1,18,332
17	Meghalaya	28,836
18	Mizoram	52,947
19	Nagaland	11,912
20	Odisha	27,15,058
21	Punjab	8,67,223
22	Rajasthan	22,22,924
23	Sikkim	36,236
24	Tamil Nadu	28,28,553
25	Telangana	11,75,531
26	Tripura	99,762
27	Uttar Pradesh	48,56,323
28	Uttarakhand	2,32,627
29	West Bengal	31,01,362
30	Delhi	5,40,631
31	A & N Island	15,126
32	Chandigarh	21,498
33	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2,176
34	Daman and Diu	5,149
35	Lakshadweep	176
36	Puducherry	47,080
	Total	3,48,62,288

Annexure referred to in reply to Part (c) of Lok Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1284 for 25.11.2019 by Shri A . Narayana Swamy regarding Construction workers.

Welfare and Social Security Benefits for the registered workers of the Board

1. Pension -{Sec. 22(1)(b) read with Rule 39}: After completion of 3 years as a beneficiary Rs. 1,000/- per month
2. Disability Pension -{Sec. 22(1)(b) read with Rule 40}: Rs. 1,000/- per month and Ex gratia payment up to Rs. 2,00,000/- depending upon the percentage of disability.
3. Shrama Samarthyaa Toolkit-cum- Training Programme -{Sec. 22(1)(h) read with Rule 41}: Rs. 20,000/-
4. Housing (Karmika Gruha Bhagya) {Sec. 22(1)(c) read with Rule 42}: Rs. 2,00,000/-
5. Maternity Assistance (Thayi Lakshmi Bond)- {Sec. 22(1)(g) read with Rule 43}: Assistance of Rs. 30,000/- in case of female child and a sum of Rs. 20,000/- in case of male child (for first two children only)
6. Funeral Expenses: {Sec. 22(1)(h) read with Rule 44} Rs. 4,000/-to meet the funeral expenses of the deceased construction worker and Rs. 50,000/- as ex-gratia
7. Educational Assistance - (Kalike Bhagya) {Sec. 22(1)(e) read with Rule 45}: (Two children of the registered construction worker)
 - Passing 1st 2nd and 3rd Rs. 2,000/-
 - Passing 4th, 5th and 6th Rs. 3,000/-
 - Passing 7th & 8th Rs. 4,000/-
 - Passing 9th & 10th Std and 1st PUC Rs. 6,000/-
 - Passing II PUC Rs. 8,000/-
 - Passing I.T.I or 2 years Professional Diploma Course – Rs. 7,000/- (each year of passing)
 - Passing Degree Course – Rs.10,000/- (each year of passing)
 - Masters Degree – Rs. 20,000/- for entry and Rs. 10,000/- (each year of passing)
 - **Entering into Engineering or Medical courses (B.E or MBBS on merit seat)**- BE: Rs.25,000/- for entry and Rs. 20,000/- after each year of passing subject to the maximum number of years of the course.
 - MBBS: Rs.30, 000/-for entry and Rs.25, 000/- after each year of passing subject to the maximum number of years of the course.
 - **Entry into Doctoral Research-** Rs.20,000/- after completion of every year (maximum 2 years) and thereafter, an additional Rs. 20,000/-after acceptance of thesis.

MERIT ASSISTANCE

- I. Above 75% in SSLC or Equivalent Rs. 5,000/-
 - II. Above 75% in PUC or Equivalent Rs. 7,000/-
 - III. Above 75% in Degree or Equivalent Rs. 10,000/-
 - IV. Above 75% in Masters Degree or Equivalent Rs. 15,000/-
8. Medical Assistance (Karmika Arogya Bhagya)- {Sec. 22(1)(f) read with Rule 46} : Rs. 300/- per day of hospitalization to a maximum of Rs. 10,000/- for continuous period of hospitalization
 9. Accidental Death/ Permanent Disability- {Sec. 22(1)(a) read with Rule 47}: Up to Rs. 5,00,000/-
 10. Treatment of Major Ailments (Karmika Chikitsa Bhagya)- {Sec. 22(1)(f) read with Rule 48} : Upto Rs. 2,00,000/-: Treatment of Major Ailments viz. Heart Operation, Kidney Transplantation and Cancer, Eye Operation, Paralysis, Orthopedics Operation, Uterus Operation, Asthma, Miscarriage, Gall Bladder Ailments, Kidney Stone Removal, Brain Hemorrhage, Ulcer, Dialysis, Kidney Related Surgery, ENT Treatment & Surgery, Neurosurgery, Vascular Surgery, Esophagus Treatment & Surgery, Gastrointestinal Surgery, Breast Related Treatment and Surgery, Hernia Surgery, Appendix Surgery, Treatment of Fractures / Dislocation, General Surgery. (Subject to C.G.H.S. Rates)
 11. Marriage Assistance (Gruha Lakshmi Bond)- {Sec. 22(1)(h) read with Rule 49} **50,000/-**: Marriage Assistance to the beneficiary or to his 2 children.
 12. LPG connection to registered construction workers.(Karmika Anila Bhagya)- {Sec. 22(1)(h) read with Rule 49D} connection including a two burner stove and refill for his or her family
 13. BMTC bus pass- {Sec. 22(1)(h) read with Rule 49E} Assistance of free Bus Pass to registered construction workers to commute in Bengaluru Metropolitan Transportation Corporation (BMTC) buses
 14. KSRTC bus pass- {Sec. 22(1)(h) read with Rule 49 F} Assistance of free Student Bus Pass to children of registered construction workers travelling in KSRTC buses
 15. Assistance for pre-school education and nutritional support of the child of the registered woman construction worker -Thayi Magu Sahaya Hastha: -{Sec. 22(1)(g) read with Rule 43A} : Rs. 6000/- (at the rate of Rs. 500/- per month)

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1284
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2019**

CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

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ANSWER

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

(a): The Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 mandates the State BOCW Welfare Boards to register every BOC worker having completed 18 years of age, but not completed 60 years, and engaged in BOC work for not less than 90 days in preceding 12 months as a beneficiary and give every beneficiary an Identity Card. The number of construction workers issued I.D. cards by the State Boards is not centrally maintained. However, cumulative number of BOC workers registered as beneficiaries by the State Boards is furnished at Annexure-I.

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 15. Assistance for pre-school education and nutritional support of the child of the registered woman construction worker -Thayi Magu Sahaya Hastha: -{Sec. 22(1)(g) read with Rule 43A} : Rs. 6000/- (at the rate of Rs. 500/- per month)

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1296
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2019**

CASHEW SECTOR EMPLOYEES

1296. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to treat all cashew sector employees as seasonal factory employees as defined under Para 2(kk) of the employees PF scheme 1952 read with explanation to para 9 (a) to the employees pension scheme 1952;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard;**
- (d) whether the Government is aware that the PF sub regional office, Kollam has denied PF pension benefits to poor cashew workers as per amendment to para 9 of the employees pension scheme 1995 replacing actual service by contributory service;**
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard; and**
- (f) whether the Government is intending to conduct PF Adalat at Taluk level, if so, the details thereof along with status of the same?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The cashew sector employees are already treated as seasonal workers under the provisions of Para 2(kk) of the Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952 read with explanation to para 9(a) to the Employees' Pension Scheme 1995.

Contd..2/-

(d) & (e): Clarification was sought by the Zonal Office, Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) Kerala on the issue of eligibility of cashewnut workers for pension and the same was provided by EPFO Head Office and as per available information with EPFO Head Office, RO, Kollam is processing the pension claim applications in respect of cashewnut workers, treating them as employees employed in seasonal establishments.

(f): Nidhi Aapke Nikat, which was earlier known as Bhavishya Nidhi Adalat is conducted on 10th of every month (on next working day in case of holiday). Nidhi Aapke Nikat is conducted by field offices of EPFO within and outside office including Taluk level. Total Number of 103 Nidhi Aapke Nikat (Bhavishya Nidhi Adalats) were conducted at Taluk level during 2019-20 till month of November.

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1330
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2019**

LABOURERS WORKING IN UNORGANISED SECTOR

†1330. SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY:

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

- (a) whether the Government is likely to further improve the EPF and ESI facilities for the better future of the labourers working in the unorganised sector;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the State-wise number of labourers working in the unorganised sector; and**
- (d) the State-wise number of workers covered under EPF and ESI so far?**

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): The Employees' State Insurance (ESI) Scheme is not applicable on workers working in unorganized sector. The ESI Scheme is applicable on factories and establishments (Excluding seasonal factories) employing 10 or more workers.

The Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 applies to scheduled establishments employing 20 or more employees.

(c): The State-wise number of labourers working in the unorganised sector is not available with Ministry of Labour and Employment, as it is not collected centrally.

(d): The details of State-wise number of Insured Person covered under ESI Scheme are at Annexure 'A'. The details of State-wise number of workers covered under Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) are at Annexure 'B'.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1330 FOR 25.11.2019 BY SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY REGARDING 'LABOURERS WORKING IN UNORGANISED SECTOR'.

State-wise number of Insured Persons covered under ESI scheme (as on 31.03.2019)	
State	No. of Insured Persons
ANDHRA PRADESH	1290950
NORTH EASTERN STATES (ASSAM, MEGHALYA, NAGALAND, TRIPURA, MANIPUR, SIKKIM)	317000
BIHAR	283220
CHHATTISGARH	620480
DELHI	1716640
GOA	285300
GUJARAT + (DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI + DAMAN & DIU)	1627460
HARYANA	2809260
HIMACHAL PRADESH	340500
JAMMU & KASHMIR	238200
JHARKHAND	422510
KARNATAKA	3473410
KERALA + (LAKSHADWEEP)	1054120
MADHYA PRADESH	1047260
MAHARASHTRA	4847980
ODISHA	681980
PUDUCHERRY + ANDAMAN & NICOBAR	121570
PUNJAB	1337010
RAJASTHAN	1492990
TAMIL NADU	4300200
TELANGANA	1817770
UTTAR PRADESH	2263350
UTTRAKHAND	655830
WEST BENGAL	1922090
Total	34967080

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1330 FOR 25.11.2019 BY SHRI PANKAJ CHAUDHARY REGARDING 'LABOURERS WORKING IN UNORGANISED SECTOR'.

State-wise Contributing Members in different states, Wage month September, 2019			
Sl. No.	State	No. of Establishments	Contributing Members
1	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS	363	14822
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	16559	1108094
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	312	5535
4	ASSAM	5151	255630
5	BIHAR	5700	444460
6	CHANDIGARH	5916	413146
7	CHHATTISGARH	7446	442501
8	DELHI	26631	2839958
9	GOA	2712	183682
10	GUJARAT	44451	3138057
11	HARYANA	23038	2414602
12	HIMACHAL PRADESH	5691	320190
13	JHARKHAND	8065	463855
14	KARNATAKA	43983	5525733
15	KERALA	15466	1057707
16	MADHYA PRADESH	17672	1084438
17	MAHARASHTRA	84720	9433986
18	MANIPUR	386	14205
19	MEGHALAYA	686	34382
20	MIZORAM	104	3578
21	NAGALAND	229	8208
22	ODISHA	11813	722144
23	PUNJAB	15436	686797
24	RAJASTHAN	19786	1150298
25	TAMIL NADU	58187	5141278
26	TELANGANA	22593	2835955
27	TRIPURA	663	27265
28	UTTAR PRADESH	33183	2118934
29	UTTARAKHAND	5967	540340
30	WEST BENGAL	34411	2631192
	Total	517320	45060972

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1351
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2019**

MEDICAL INSURANCE TO PENSIONERS OF EPFO

†1351. SHRI RAJAN VICHARE:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide the pensioners of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) with Medical Insurance through the Employees' State Insurance Corporation;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. The Government proposes to extend medical benefits to Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS) 1995 pensioners drawing minimum pension upto Rs. 1000/- per month under EPS, 1995 and residing in Delhi through a pilot scheme. However, no final decision has been taken.

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1358
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.11.2019**

MEMBERS AND PENSIONERS OF EPFO

†1358. SHRIMATI QUEEN OJA:

DR. BHARATIBEN DHIRUBHAI SHIYAL:

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

- (a) the number of active members and pensioners of EPFO at present;**
- (b) whether the facilities of EPFO are proposed to be digitised;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the details of the benefits of digitisation to be accrued to the account holders; and**
- (d) the number of pending EPF withdrawal cases and the steps taken by the Government for disposal of these cases along with the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a): The number of active members under Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), at present, are 4,50,60,972 [Contributing Universal Account Numbers (UANs) of last three wage months viz. August, 2019 to October, 2019]. The number of pensioners are 65,95,575.

(b) to (c): EPFO has taken several initiatives for providing online facilities to the members for their nominations, ascertaining balances, settling claims and to file online claims by member. The members are now not required to approach the employer for their withdrawals. They can get the information on the balances directly in their login to

Contd..2/-

member portal. They can file their nomination online. The pensioners and beneficiaries of the deceased members can also file directly their claims online. The pensioners can download their Pension Payment Order form DigiLocker. The employees who have not been enrolled by the employer or who do not want to share their Aadhaar can directly generate their UAN for EPF matters.

(d): The number of pending claims is dynamic in nature, which keeps on changing from month to month. However, out of the total number of claims received from 1st April to 31st October, 2019, 99.17% claims have been settled. EPFO has introduced online facilities for speedy settlement of claims and mandated to settle claims within 20 days.

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2109
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2019**

EPFO SUBSCRIBERS

2109. SHRI RAMALINGAM S.:

SHRI A. RAJA:

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

- (a) the details of the number of EPFO subscribers across the country including Tamil Nadu;**
- (b) whether the Government has made mandatory for getting a UAN number for every employee of the registered organization under EPFO;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise including Tamil Nadu and the reasons therefor;**
- (d) the details of the number of subscribers issued UAN number so far including Tamil Nadu and the time by which this number will be issued to all subscribers;**
- (e) the details of number of organisations not complying with EPFO guidelines across the country; and**
- (f) the action taken/being taken by the Government against these companies?**

ANSWER

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

- (a): The State-wise details of number of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) subscribers including the State of Tamil Nadu are at Annexure A.**

Contd..2/-

(b) & (c): Universal Account Number (UAN) is required for only such employees of an establishment who are eligible for becoming member of Employees' Provident Fund and for whom the employer has to make payment of Provident Fund (PF) and allied dues. ECR (Electronic Challan cum Return) was made UAN based from January, 2017. UAN is an identification number for a subscriber and is generated by employers. Facility has been given to subscribers also to get their own UAN. The State/UT-wise count of UANs allotted are at Annexure A.

(d): UAN is generated by the employer from their login and UAN have been generated for all subscribers as the ECR (Electronic Challan cum Return) is UAN based.

(e) & (f): Wherever instances of non-compliance with EPFO guidelines comes to the notice of the field offices of EPFO, appropriate action is taken as per provisions of the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and Schemes framed thereunder.

*

ANNEXURE A

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2109 FOR 02.12.2019 BY SHRI RAMALINGAM S. AND SHRI A. RAJA REGARDING 'EPFO Subscribers'.

State/UT-wise subscribers/Universal Account Number based on contributions received during Wage Month Period August - October, 2019		
Sl. No.	STATE/UT	Subscribers
1	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS	14820
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	1108045
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	5535
4	ASSAM	255657
5	BIHAR	444461
6	CHANDIGARH	413112
7	CHHATTISGARH	442484
8	DELHI	2839981
9	GOA	183662
10	GUJARAT	3138076
11	HARYANA	2414599
12	HIMACHAL PRADESH	320226
13	JHARKHAND	463866
14	KARNATAKA	5525740
15	KERALA	1057686
16	MADHYA PRADESH	1084430
17	MAHARASHTRA	9434009
18	MANIPUR	14206
19	MEGHALAYA	34388
20	MIZORAM	3577
21	NAGALAND	8206
22	ODISHA	722134
23	PUNJAB	686825
24	RAJASTHAN	1150289
25	TAMIL NADU	5141091
26	TELANGANA	2836047
27	TRIPURA	27268
28	UTTAR PRADESH	2118921
29	UTTARAKHAND	540366
30	WEST BENGAL	2631265
TOTAL		45060972

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2160
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2019**

NEW PENSION SCHEME

2160. SHRI MANOJ KOTAK:

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

- (a) whether the Government has planned a new pension scheme where the labourers after their retirement age will be entitled for pensions;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether it is true that new law is being made to ensure welfare of the labourers; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): For old age protection in the form of monthly pension, Ministry of Labour & Employment has launched Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan Yojana which is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme for providing monthly minimum assured pension of Rs. 3,000/- on attaining the age of 60 years. The unorganised workers in the age group of 18-40 years whose monthly income is Rs.15,000/- or less and not a member of EPFO/ESIC/NPS can join the scheme. Under the scheme, 50% monthly contribution is payable by the beneficiary and equal matching contribution is paid by the Central Government. The enrolment is being done through the country-wide network of 3.50 lakh Common Service Centres under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. Facility has been made for online enrolment. Monthly subscription is being deducted through auto-debit facility.

(c) & (d): Draft code on Social Security, 2019 has been prepared by amalgamating, simplifying and rationalizing the relevant provisions of the existing Nine Central Labour Acts relating to social security for organised and unorganised sector workers which aims towards expansion of coverage of social security. Presently, the draft code on Social Security 2019 is under pre-legislative consultative process.

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2163
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2019**

ESI CONTRIBUTION RATE CUT

**2163. SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL:
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has recently announced ESI contribution rate cut to widen its scope and cover more workers in the industry, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) the contribution of Government in ESI scheme and benefits likely to be given to employees after this rate cut;**
- (c) the further steps taken or being taken by the Government for social security and improving working conditions of labourers in the country;**
- (d) whether in order to widen social security, improving conditions of workers and move to improve the ease of doing business in the country, Government has announced ESI contribution rate cut, if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) the extent to which this step of the Government is likely to benefit employer and employee; and**
- (f) the total burden of the Government after taking this step and the other steps taken or being taken by Government for social security of labour and ease of doing business?**

ANSWER

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

(a): Yes, Sir. The rate of the Employees' State Insurance (ESI) contribution has been reduced from 6.5% (employer's share - 4.75% and employee's share - 1.75%) to 4% (employer's share - 3.25% and employee's share - 0.75%) with effect from 01.07.2019.

Contd..2/-

(b): ESI is a self-financing scheme and no grant/aid is provided by the Government of India. All the benefits as available before the rate cut even after this reduction.

(c): ESI Scheme, which is now available in 566 districts of the country, is to be gradually extended to entire country by the year 2022.

(d): The rate of ESI contribution has been reduced, w.e.f. 01.07.2019, from 6.5 % to 4%, as detailed in part (a) above, to bring more and more employees under the ambit of ESI Act, 1948.

(e): The reduction in rate of contribution will reduce the burden on employer & employees and improve the coverage as well as compliance.

(f): As ESI is self-financing scheme where the expenditure is met out from the ESI fund generated through contribution received from the employers and employees, there is no burden on the Government.

Further, in line with the recommendations of the Second National Commission on Labour, the Government has taken steps for drafting four Labour Codes i.e. the Code on Wages; the Code on Industrial Relations, the Code on Occupational Safety, Health & Working Conditions & the Code on Social Security by simplifying, amalgamating and rationalizing the relevant provisions of the existing 29 Central Labour Laws.

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2174
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2019**

LABOURERS IN BUNDELKHAND

†2174. SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL:

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

- (a) the details of the number of labourers in Bundelkhand;**
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any survey of comprehensive labour based industries in Bundelkhand;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government has made any plan to provide more relief to the labourers in the country including Bundelkhand specially in unorganized sectors; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The information in respect of workers in Bundelkhand as reported by the 6th Economic Census conducted by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation is annexed.

(d) & (e): Government has taken a number of steps towards expansion of the organized sector. These are as under:

Under the Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY) initiative undertaken by the Ministry of Labour & Employment, there has been a significant improvement in the registration of beneficiaries and approx 1.2 crore number of self employed persons/ employees were benefitted during the last three years, which is an indication of shifting from informal sector to the formal sector for availing the Social Security Benefits. In order to provide social security benefits to the workers in the unorganized sector including workers in agriculture sector, the Government has enacted the Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act, 2008.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2174 ANSWER ON 02.12.2019 BY SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL REGARDING LABOURERS IN BUNDELKHAND

Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), Government of India, conducted the 6th Economic Census in 2013 across all States/UTs for accessing the coverage and penetration of economic activities in the country. As per the 6th EC published report, total number of establishments engaged in economic activities and number of workers engaged therein for the 13 districts of Bundelkhand Region are as under:

S.No.	District	No. of Establishments	No. of Workers
1	Datia	18627	35140
2	Tikamgarh	28837	49079
3	Chhatarpur	60355	112297
4	Panna	21441	40207
5	Sagar	125469	234015
6	Damoh	70535	112142
7	Lalitpur	25006	49083
8	Jhansi	58865	108464
9	Hamirpur	21992	43464
10	Mahoba	22856	42709
11	Banda	34470	76791
12	Jalaun	61823	104191
13	Chitrakoot	15146	29169
Total		565422	1036751

2. Definition of Worker (Person Employed) used in 6th Economic Census:

“All persons (including children under 15 years of age) working on the last working day prior to the date of fieldwork in the establishment, either as owners, members of the household, co-owner or partner or family members helping the owner in running the establishment including other persons engaged by the establishment, whether hired or not, besides regular and salaried employees, casual/daily wage labourers are considered as workers for the establishment”.

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2187
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2019
EPF AMOUNT IN PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANIES**

2187. DR. T. SUMATHY (a) THAMIZHACHI THANGAPANDIAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has invested EPF amount in various Public Limited Companies and in the form of 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 in top ten companies, company-wise;**
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of EPF subscribers;**
- (d) whether the 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 the 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 September, 2019 is Rs. 86,966 crore.

(c): The Central Board of Trustees (CBT), Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) in its 207th meeting held on 31.03.2015 decided to invest only in 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. In order to extend social security benefits to all the eligible workers in the country, continuous efforts are made to bring the coverable establishments under the EPF & MP Act, 1952 and also for bringing the eligible employees under the umbrella of Schemes under the Act. As on 31.03.2019, 197 industries/classes of establishments are notified for coverage which has brought 4.69 crores contributory members within ambit of EPF.

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2262
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2019**

EPFO

2262. SHRI SUBBARAYAN K.:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Government owed about Rs. 9,100 crore to Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) towards its contribution to pension schemes and the EPFO has requested the Finance Ministry to clear the dues which has accumulated over decades; and**
- (b) if so, the details and Government's reaction thereto?**

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) administers Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) Scheme, 1952, Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995 and Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance (EDLI) Scheme, 1976. Government contributes 1.16 per cent of member's wage upto wage ceiling of Rs. 15,000/- per month as Government share of contribution under EPS, 1995. Further, Government also funds the differential amount needed to provide Minimum Pension of Rs.1,000/- per month in respect of EPS, 1995 pensioners. Therefore, Government share towards pension contribution is dynamic and keeps on changing depending on number of beneficiaries.

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2294
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.12.2019**

DIGITAL LABOUR PLATFORMS

2294. MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any records of the total number of people employed by digital labour platforms and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government has made any new law or regulations for them and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to insure them against accidents; and**
- (d) whether it is the responsibility of the companies and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a): No such record is maintained in this Ministry.

(b) to (d): No law to regulate digital platform workers has been enacted. The provisions relating to providing insurance against accident by companies is as per their service conditions and applicable laws.

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3239
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2019**

EPF INTEREST

3239. SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI:

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

- (a) whether Government has raised the EPF interest at 8.65 per cent for the year 2018-19;**
- (b) whether it is a fact that in comparison to 2015-16 the interest rate is lower than the previous year;**
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and**
- (d) the number of beneficiaries under EPF scheme and settlement of benefits to be made thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) to (c): The rate of interest to be credited to Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) members' accounts is based on all Incomes and Liabilities for the particular Financial Year.

(d): The number of members under EPF Scheme, 1952 during the year 2018-19 is 22,91,93,593 and settlement of benefits to be made thereof are 1,15,21,930.

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3244
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2019**

UAN TO EMPLOYEES IN UNORGANISED SECTOR

†3244. SHRI KHAGEN MURMU:

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

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to provide facility to the employees of the unorganised sector to generate their Universal Account Number (UAN) without depending on their employers;**
- (b) if so, the benefit likely to be accrued to these employees with this facility; and**
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 is applicable to factories engaged in Industries specified in Schedule I and class of establishments notified by the Central Government.

As on 31.03.19, 197 industries/class of establishments are notified for coverage which has brought 4.69 crores contributory members within ambit of EPF.

Establishments are not classified as organised or un-organised sector.

The EPFO has introduced a facility to enable workers in EPF covered establishments to obtain Universal Account Number (UAN) directly online.

Benefits are:

- i) UAN ensures worker's enrolment for Provident Fund, Pension and Life Insurance.**
- ii) Worker is no longer dependent on their employer for getting UAN.**
- iii) UAN cannot be denied to any eligible worker.**
- iv) Worker need not share his Aadhar with employer for validation.**
- v) Employer can link UAN obtained by worker to start payment of contributions.**

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3275
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2019**

CEILING OF GRATUITY

3275. SHRI SHYAM SINGH YADAV:

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

- (a) whether the Government has enhanced ceiling of gratuity from 10 lakhs to 20 lakhs after the implementation of 7th pay commission making it effective from 1.1.2016 for all Central Government employees, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government has received several requests from workers' representatives belonging to Public Sector Units and the private sector for doubling the limit for gratuity payout on par with Central Government employees;**
- (c) if so, whether the Government has implemented increased gratuity for employees engaged in private and public sector effective from 29.3.2018;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for discrimination and double standard; and**
- (e) the corrective steps taken by the Government to extend enhanced ceiling of gratuity to workers from 1.1.2016 as done in the case of Central Government employees?**

ANSWER

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

(a): Yes, Sir. The maximum limit of retirement gratuity and death gratuity under the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972, has been enhanced from Rs.10.00 lakh to Rs.20.00 lakh w.e.f. 01.01.2016 for Central Government civil employees in implementation of Government's decision on the recommendations of the Seventh Central Pay Commission.

(b) to (e): Letters/ representations/grievances etc. have been received, inter-alia, from individuals, associations, public representatives requesting to provide the benefit of enhanced gratuity under the Act retrospectively with effect from 01.01.2016.

Following the enactment of the Payment of Gratuity (Amendment) Act, 2018 by the Parliament on 28.03.2018, the corresponding notification was issued by the Government on 29.03.2018 enhancing the gratuity ceiling under the Act from Rs.10 lakh to Rs.20 lakh with effect from 29.03.2018. On the earlier occasions too, the ceiling of the gratuity amount was enhanced from the prospective date(s) only.

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3293
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2019**

SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES FOR CASUAL WORKERS

**3293. SHRI SELVAM G.:
SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is implementing various Acts and schemes to provide social security and welfare benefits to casual workers both in the organised and unorganized sector and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether it is a fact that despite labour laws the casual labourers in the country are not getting basic medical and maternity benefits;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;**
- (d) the details of the sectors where the casual labourers are reportedly deprived from their due social status and if so, the steps taken by the Government to extend all basic facilities to the casual labourers in the country; and**
- (e) the details of number of casual/ contract labourers engaged during each of the last three years and the current year in organised and unorganised sector?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): In order to provide social security benefits to the workers in the unorganised sector, including casual labourers, as per their eligibility, Government enacted the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008. This Act stipulates formulation of suitable welfare schemes for unorganised workers on matters relating to: (i) life and disability cover, (ii) health and maternity benefits, (iii) old age protection and (iv) any other benefit as may be determined by the Central Government. Life and disability cover is provided through Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) to the unorganised workers depending upon their eligibility. The health and maternity benefits are addressed through Ayushman Bharat scheme.

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For old age protection in the form of monthly pension, Ministry of Labour & Employment has launched Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-Dhan Yojana launched on 05th March, 2019 which is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme for providing monthly minimum assured pension of Rs. 3,000/- on attaining the age of 60 years. The unorganised workers in the age group of 18-40 years whose monthly income is Rs. 15,000/- or less and not a member of EPFO/ESIC/NPS can join the scheme. Under the scheme, 50% monthly contribution is payable by the beneficiary and equal matching contribution is paid by the Central Government.

The Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 applies to all the scheduled industries and notified class of establishments having 20 or more employees in both Organised and Unorganized sectors, including casual workers.

The casual workers are entitled to benefits as admissible under the relevant labour laws which are enforced by the respective enforcement machinery available under the central and the state sphere.

Regular inspections are carried out to ensure enforcement of the provisions of Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, Minimum Wages Act, 1958, Payment of Wages Act, 1936, Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, Inter-State Migrant Workers Act, 1979, Building and Other Construction Workers, 1996 by Central Industrial Relations Machinery (CIRM) in the central sphere. Further, regular inspections are also carried out by CIRM to ensure enforcement of the provisions of Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 in the central sphere, in relation to the establishments being a mine or establishments wherein persons are employed for exhibition of equestrian, acrobatic and other performances.

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3302
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2019**

EMPLOYEES PENSION SCHEME

**3302. SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:
SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV:
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:
SHRI SANJAY SADASHIV RAO MANDLIK:
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that Koshiyari Committee has suggested to give minimum pension of Rs. 3000 and Dearness Allowance to employees of 186 business organizations who are covered under Employees Pension Scheme and if so, the details thereof and the present status of its implementation;**
- (b) whether the Government has received representations from various Labour Unions and demand of employees for a minimum pension of Rs. 9000 + DA as per index is considered/being considered by the Committee;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government in this regard;**
- (d) whether any other demand of various Labour Unions like concession in public transport at the age of retirement etc. of the pensioners have been considered by the Government and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and**
- (e) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has given any decision in favour of pensioners on the said matter in 2017 and if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken/being taken by the Government for implementing the report?**

ANSWER

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

(a): Due to financial constraints in increase in Government share under Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), 1995 and to maintain sustainability of the Employees' Pension Fund, the recommendations of the Koshiyari Committee for minimum pension of Rs. 3,000/- per month and dearness allowance have not been accepted. However, the Government has started providing a minimum pension of Rs. 1,000/- per month to the pensioners under EPS, 1995 from 01.09.2014.

(b) to (d): Representations are received from individual EPS, 1995 pensioners as well as pensioners associations demanding, inter-alia, increase of minimum pension and to link the monthly pension with cost of living index. These representations/demands are considered keeping in view sustainability of Pension Fund.

(e): No, Sir.

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3356
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2019**

EPFO INVESTMENT IN STOCK MARKET

3356. SHRI VELUSAMY P.:

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

- (a) whether as of now the market exposure of EPFO (Employees Provident Fund Organisation) is restricted to Government and Corporate fund but the Central Board of Trustees of EPFO on March, 31 has decided to invest in stock markets;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the trade unions have agreed for this decision of the EPFO to invest in equity shares;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) the amount to be invested and the precautions taken to secure the principal and dividend of the amount to be invested in equities due to its volatile market?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) is investing its fund in Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) in addition to Government Securities and Debt Instruments as per Government's investment policy.

The total amount invested by EPFO in ETF as on September, 2019 is Rs. 86,966 crore.

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3443
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2019**

INVESTMENT SCAM IN EPFO

3443. SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL:

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

- (a) whether EPFO uses its fund in different entities to earn interest and if so, the procedure adopted for such investment;**
- (b) whether recently some scam in investing such fund has come to the notice of the Government especially from Uttar Pradesh and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) the number of State Government and EPFO officials found involved in this scam;**
- (d) whether the Government has inquired into this and if so, the outcome thereof and the number of persons arrested and action initiated against them; and**
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to restrict such scam in future?**

ANSWER

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

(a): The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) is investing its fund as per the investment pattern notified by the Government.

(b) to (e): There is no such scam in respect of any fund managed by any trust covered under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.
