

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:328

ANSWERED ON:27.07.2009

CONDITION OF WORKERS IN UNORGANISED SECTOR

Devappa Anna Shri Shetti Raju Alias;Singh Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad

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

- (a) the number of labourers/workers working in the organised and unorganised sectors in the county, separately, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has made any assessment regarding the deteriorating condition including health of labourers/workers in the unorganised sector;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the measures being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the condition of the unorganised labourers/workers including their social security, insurance, medical, health and welfare; and
- (d) the number of labourers/workers benefited/likely to be benefited from such schemes, State-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 328 FOR 27.07.2009 REGARDING CONDITION OF WORKERS IN UNORGANISED SECTOR.

(a) A statement is at Annexure-I.

(b) to (d): Though no specific assessment has been made with regard to deteriorating condition, including health of labourers/workers in general in the unorganized sector, recognizing the need of providing social security, the Government has enacted the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act 2008. The Act provides for constitution of National Social Security Board at the central level and State Social Security Boards at the State level which shall recommend formulation of social security schemes for unorganised workers. Various schemes/ programmes are being implemented by the Government for improving the conditions of unorganized workers such as Swarnjayanti Gram Swaroggar Yojana, Sampooma Grameen Rojgar Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, National Social Assistance Programme, and National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 which provides 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Apart from these the Government has launched some new schemes such as the Aam Admi Bima Yojana to provide insurance against death and disability and the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) to provide health insurance cover to BPL workers. BPL workers are entirely in the unorganized sector.

The 'Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana' for BPL families in Unorganised Sector became operational from 1st April 2008. The worker and his family (unit of five) are covered under the scheme.

It provides for smart card based health insurance cover of Rs. 30,000/- per family per annum on a family floater basis. 53,21,246 families have been covered under the scheme upto 20.7.2009.

With a view to providing death and disability cover to rural landless households, the 'Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana' (AABY) was launched on 2nd October, 2007. Under the scheme, the head of the family or one earning member in the family is being insured. The Central Government bears 50% of the premium of Rs. 200/- per year per person and the remaining 50% of the premium is borne by the State Government. The benefits under the scheme include Rs.30,000 in case of natural death and Rs.75,000 in case of death due to accident. In case of partial disability due to accident, the insurance cover is Rs. 37,500/-. Children of beneficiaries of AABY studying in classes 9th to 12th, including ITI courses, are eligible to a scholarship @ Rs.300/- per quarter per child for a maximum period of 4 years under Shiksha Sahyog Yojana. The coverage upto 31.03.2009 is 29,10,400 persons.

The National Old Age Pension Scheme (Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme) has been expanded to cover all BPL citizens above the age of 65 years with effect from 19.11.2007. 1,53,46,199 persons have been covered upto 31.03.2009.

A list of schemes in operation to improve the condition of unorganised workers is at Annexure-II.