

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:111

ANSWERED ON:01.12.2014

SOCIAL SECURITY TO UNORGANISED SECTOR WORKERS

Gopal Dr. K.,Sarmah Shri Ram Prasad

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to extend social security benefits like EPF and ESIC, gratuity and pension facilities to all the workers of unorganised sector including those in construction, forest, agriculture fields in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated by the Government for the said purpose and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service

(e) Act, 1996 and the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996" and the Rules framed thereunder have been/are being implemented in all the States of the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 111 FOR 01.12.2014 BY SHRI RAM PRASAD SARMAH AND DR. K. GOPAL REGARDING SOCIAL SECURITY TO UNORGANISED SECTOR WORKERS.

(a) & (b): There is no proposal to extend social security benefits like EPF and ESIC, gratuity and pension facilities to all unorganised sector workers. Government has enacted the "Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act, 2008" with a view to provide social security measures to all unorganized workers. As per the Act National Social Security Board was constituted at the central level to recommend social security schemes viz. life and disability cover, health and maternity benefits, old age protection and any other benefit as may be determined by the Government for unorganized workers. Government has already taken various steps to provide social security for the unorganized workers. Some of these schemes are listed as under:

1. Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme, (Ministry of Rural Development).
2. National Family Benefit Scheme, (Ministry of Rural Development).
3. Janani Suraksha Yojana, (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare).
4. Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme, (Ministry of Textiles).
5. Handicraft Artisans' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme, (Ministry of Textiles).
6. Pension to Master Craft Persons, (Ministry of Textiles).
7. National Scheme for Welfare of Fishermen and Training and Extension, (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries).
8. Janshree Bima Yojana and Aam Admi Bima Yojana, (Department of Financial Services).
9. Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana, (Ministry of Labour and Employment).

(c) & (d): The Government has enacted the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 and the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996 with a view to regulating the employment and conditions of service of building and other construction workers and provide for their safety, health and welfare measures etc. Under the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996, every State Government has to constitute a State Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board. All States except newly formed Telangana have constituted the Boards.

The functions of the Board include providing welfare and social security measure such as immediate assistance to a beneficiary in case of accident, Payment of pension to the beneficiaries who have completed the age of 60 years, loan and advances for construction of house, paying amount in connection with premia for Group Insurance Scheme etc.

The responsibility of collecting cess under the Act and its utilization for welfare activities lies with the respective state Governments and State Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Boards.