

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1196  
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2014  
ORGANISED SECTOR WORKERS UNDER EPF  
Gaikwad Dr. Sunil Baliram

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

- (a) the total number of workforce engaged in the organized sector;
- (b) the number of such workers enrolled under the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) Act, 1952 and Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) Act, 1948;
- (c) whether there is a huge gap between the total number of workers engaged and the number of workers enrolled under the EPF and ESIC Act;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to enroll all the workers under EPF and ESIC Act?

**Answer**

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

- (a): The statistics regarding total number of workers employed in the organised sector in the country is not maintained centrally.
- (b): As on 31.03.2014, there were 11,78,13,454 workers enrolled under Employees' Provident Funds & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952. However, contributing members for the month of June, 2014 were 3,10,04,111 only. Further, as on 31.03.2014, there were 1.74 crore employees enrolled under Employees' State Insurance (ESI) Act, 1948.
- (c) & (d): The EPF & MP Act, 1952 is applicable to workers employed in establishments having 20 or more workers. While, ESI Act, 1948 is applicable in respect of establishments employing 10 or more workers. Further, it is implemented by notifying an area for coverage under ESI Scheme depending upon industrial concentration and availability of dedicated medical infrastructure for providing medical care. This is the main reason of gap between the total number of workers engaged and number of workers enrolled under EPF & MP Act 1952 and ESI Act 1948.
- (e): The following steps have been taken by Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) and Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) to bring more and more workers under the ambit of these Acts:
  - (i) The wage ceiling for coverage under the EPF & MP Act, 1952 has been enhanced from Rs.6500/- per month to Rs. 15000/- per month recently.
  - (ii) ESIC undertakes surveys on periodic basis to bring additional areas under the Scheme. Before notification is issued for bringing the area under coverage, State Government has to put in place arrangement for medical care. ESIC requests the State Governments to provide medical care either through dedicate medical facilities or through their general health system.
  - (iii) ESIC also collects information of the units covered with other Government bodies, such as, EPFO, etc. for bringing the units under the coverage of ESI Scheme.