GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1547 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.03.2020

LABOUR REFORMS

1547. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA:

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

- (a)whether the Ministry has taken any initiatives for bringing transparency and accountability through reforms and enforcement of labour laws;
- (b)whether Government has also made some plan with the objective of strengthening the safety, security, health, social security for every worker; and
- (c)what initiatives have been taken regarding ease of compliance for running an establishment to catalyse creation of employment opportunities?

ANSWER

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

(a): Reforms in labour laws are an on-going process to update the legislative as well as governance system to address the need of the hour so as to make them more effective, flexible and in sync with emerging economic and industrial scenario. The Ministry has taken steps for drafting four Labour Codes i.e. the Code on Wages; the Industrial Relations Code, the Occupational Safety, Health & Working Conditions Code & the Code on Social Security by simplifying, amalgamating and rationalizing the relevant provisions of the existing Central Labour Laws. Out of these 4 Labour Codes, the Code on

Wages, 2019, has been notified on 8th August, 2019 in the Gazette of India. The rest 3 Codes i.e. the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2019, the Industrial Relations Code, 2019 and the Code on Social Security, 2019 have been introduced in Lok Sabha on 23rd July, 2019, 28th November, 2019 and 11th December, 2019 respectively and subsequently, referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour for examination. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour has already submitted its report on the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2019.

Also, "Shram Suvidha Portal, launched by the Government on 16.10.2014, brings transparency and accountability in enforcement of Labour Laws.

Further, 'Santusht' - Implementation Monitoring Cell (IMC) has been constituted in the Office of Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Labour & Employment in January 2020. The objective of 'Santusht' is to promote transparency, accountability, effective delivery of public services and implementation of policies and schemes of Ministry of Labour and Employment at grassroot level through constant monitoring.

- (b): The Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2019 and the Code on Social Security, 2019 would address issues related to occupational safety, health and working conditions and social security of the employees.
- (c): Codification of the Labour Laws into 4 Labour Codes aims to simplify, amalgamate and rationalize the relevant provisions of the existing Central Labour Laws. Simplification of provisions related to licence, registration and return and other such regulations would reduce the cost of compliance of establishments substantially which would promote setting up of more enterprises, thus catalyzing the creation of employment opportunities in the country.
