

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3932
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.04.2023**

WELFARE POLICY FOR RETAIL SHOPKEEPERS

3932. DR. ASHOK KUMAR MITTAL:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any data on the number of retail shopkeepers in the country, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether Government has established any policy for the welfare of retail shopkeepers in the country;**
- (c) if so, whether such a policy has been able to achieve its aims and objectives, the details thereof; and**
- (d) whether Government is planning to introduce a welfare fund for the shopkeepers in the country?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI RAMESWAR TELI)**

(a) to (d): Shops and commercial establishments register with the respective States/ UTs. No such data is maintained by this Ministry.

The Government had launched the National Pension Scheme for Traders and Self Employed (NPS-Traders), in September, 2019 for the welfare of traders including the retail shopkeepers. It is a voluntary and co-contributory pension scheme. The traders in the age group of 18-40 years with an annual turnover, not exceeding Rs.1.5 crore and who are not member of EPFO/ESIC/MPS/PM-SYM or an income tax payer, can join the scheme. In addition, eligible persons can also self-enrol through visiting the portal www.maandhan.in. Enrolment to the scheme is done through the Common Service Centres, with its network of more than 4 lakh Centres across the country. Under the scheme, 50% monthly contribution is payable by the beneficiary and equal matching contribution is paid by the Central Government. Subscribers, after attaining the age of 60 years, are eligible for minimum assured pension of Rs.3000/- per month.

As on 12.02.2023 the total registrations under this scheme are 52,211.
