

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 416
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2025**

**GOVERNMENT SCHEMES FOR INFORMAL EMPLOYMENT IN RAIGAD
AND KONKAN DISTRICTS**

416. # SHRI DHAIRYASHIL MOHAN PATIL:

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

- (a) whether Government has assessed the status of informal workers getting benefits of social security schemes like Employees' State Insurance (ESI) and Employees' Provident Funds (EPF) in Raigad and Konkan region;**
- (b) the steps taken to address the major challenges in registration and delivery of benefits under these schemes; and**
- (c) whether Government is planning to amend existing schemes to accelerate the formalization of the workers?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SUSHRI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE)**

(a) to (c): The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 is applicable to all factories and establishments having ten or more employees, drawing wages up to Rs 21,000/- (Rs. 25,000/- for Persons with disability). The Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF & MP) Act, 1952 is applicable to factories and notified classes of establishment employing twenty or more employees with monthly EPF wages up to Rs. 15,000/- per month. As such, both the Acts do not apply to the unorganised sector.

Central Government runs various social security schemes including for the unorganised workers: (i) Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (ABPMJAY), (ii) Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), (iii) Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY), (iv) Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan- Dhan (PM-SYM), (v) Labour Welfare Scheme and health care facilities for Beedi/ Cine & Non-coal Mine workers, (vi) Public Distribution System through One-Nation-One-Ration-Card Scheme under National Food Security

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Act, (vii) Deen Dayal Upadhyay Gramin Kaushal Yojana, (viii) PM Awas Yojana – Urban (PMAY-U) (ix) PM Awas Yojana- Gramin (PMAY-G), (x) Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana, (xi) Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana, (xii) Prime Minister Street Vendors AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM-SVANidhi), (xiii) Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (xiv) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) among others.

Steps taken to address the major challenges in registration and delivery of benefits under these schemes include launch of the eShram- “One- Stop-Solution” on 21st October 2024. eShram- “One Stop- Solution” entails integration of different Social Security/ Welfare schemes at single portal i.e., eShram. So far, 12 schemes of different Central Ministries / Departments have already been integrated/mapped with the eShram including PMSBY, PMJJBY, AB-PMJAY, PM-SVANidhi, PMAY-U, PMAY-G, MGNREGA.

Further, the Ministry holds periodic review meeting with the States/UTs and regular meetings with the Common Service Centres (CSC) and Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), interaction with Department of Financial Services, Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy to increase the outreach of schemes.

The Code on Social Security, 2020 (the Code) was notified on 29.09.2020 and envisages, inter-alia, framing of schemes for unorganised workers. Further, the Code for the first time enables an establishment having less than ten persons to join ESIC on voluntary basis. The provisions of the Code relating to Employees’ Provident Fund is applicable to every establishment in which 20 or more employees are employed without any reference to scheduled establishments.
