GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1370
TO BE ANSWERED ON 30.07.2026

WELFARE OF BUILDING AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

1370. SHRI RYAGA KRISHNAIAH:

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

(a)whether there is any pension scheme for Building and other Construction Workers (BOCWs), traders and other unorganised workers;
(b)the measures taken to ensure coverage of such workers in terms of healthcare, education for their children, pension benefits and housing;
(c)whether Government maintains a database of such workers;
(d)whether there is any digital system through which such workers are registered and avail social security and welfare benefits provided by Government; and
(e)the status of Government's Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS)?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): 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 are subsumed in the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020 (OSH & WC Code, 2020) and the Code on Social Security, 2020 (CoSS, 2020), respectively. These codes have come into force from 21.11.2025 and the rules made thereunder i.e. the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (Central) Rules, 2026 and Social Security (Central) Rules, 2026 have come into force from 08.05.2026.

Further, the CoSS, 2020 mandates the State Governments to constitute a State BOCW Welfare Board to perform its functions to provide death and disability benefits, group insurance, educational for the benefit of children of the beneficiaries, treatment of major ailments, maternity benefit, skill development and awareness of schemes, transit accommodation or hostel facility including the pension to the registered building workers in the Board.

Contd..2/-

The National Pension Scheme for Traders and Self-Employed Persons was launched in September, 2019. This is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme for providing a monthly assured pension of Rs. 3000/- after attaining the age of 60 years to the retail traders/ shopkeepers and self-employed persons.

The Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM) scheme was launched in February, 2019 in order to provide old age pension to the workers of unorganised sector. This is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme with equal matching contribution by the Central Government. Under the scheme, a monthly minimum assured pension of Rs. 3000/- is provided to the unorganized workers after attaining the age of 60 years.

The Central Government has the mandate to issue direction to the States for implementation of the provisions of the OSH & WC Code, 2020 and CoSS, 2020.

The Central Government has the database of self-registered workers on eShram Portal. Also, States report the data of registered building workers to the Central Government, on BOCW MIS Portal.

The pension fund under the Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), 2026 is a pooled fund into which contributions from employers and the Central Government are received. The benefits are paid out of the fund when a member/family becomes eligible. There is no time limit for filing a claim for getting due benefits. Pension/withdrawal benefit under EPS is released along with due arrears, whenever claims are received and settled.

*****