GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1444 TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.03.2018

LABOUR REFORMS

1444. DR. P. VENUGOPAL:

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

- (a)whether it is a fact that according to some experts, Government needs to move fast to labour reform;
- (b)if so, the details thereof;
- (c)whether it is also true that these experts have suggested to lower the cost of investment, which will, in turn, ensure a pickup in job creation; and
- (d)if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): 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 Second National Commission on Labour has recommended that the existing Labour Laws should be broadly grouped into four or five Labour Codes on functional basis. Accordingly, the Ministry has taken steps for drafting four Labour Codes on Wages; Industrial Relations; Social Security & Welfare; and Occupation Safety, Health and Working Conditions respectively, by simplifying, amalgamating and rationalizing the relevant provisions of the existing Central Labour Laws. Out of these, the Labour Code on Wages has been introduced in Lok Sabha on 10.08.2017 and subsequently, referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Labour. The rest of the codes are at pre-legislative consultative stage.

Under the governance reforms, Ministry has launched Shram Suvidha Portal which facilitates a number of services such as a transparent risk based Online Labour Inspection Service, Single Online Common Annual return, Common Monthly Return by EPFO and ESIC, Common Annual Return under Mines Act, 1952, Common registration for EPFO and ESIC.

Ministry has also notified "Ease of Compliance to maintain Registers under various Labour Laws Rules, 2017" on 21st February 2017 which has in effect replaced the 56 Registers/Forms prescribed under 9 Central Laws and Rules made thereunder into 5 common Registers/Forms. Ministry has also notified Rationalization of Forms and Reports under Certain Labour Laws Rules, 2017 on 28.03.2017 for reduction of number of Forms/Returns under 3 Central Acts/Rules from 36 to 12 by reviewing redundant and overlapping fields.

Employment generation has been an important priority of the Government. Employment generation is both a cause and consequence of economic growth and is impacted by various factors including lowering the cost of investment, demographic shifts and technological transformations.
